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FACULDADE DE NUTRIÇÃO  
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JÉSSICA PEREIRA BARBOSA

**POTENCIAL PREBIÓTICO DOS RESÍDUOS DE PUÇÁ  
(*Mouriri elliptica* Mart.) E GABIROBA (*Campomanesia adamantium* (Cambess.)) O. Berg EM DIFERENTES ESPÉCIES DE MICRO-ORGANISMOS PROBIÓTICOS**

Goiânia  
2021



UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE GOIÁS  
FACULDADE DE NUTRIÇÃO

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**POTENCIAL PREBIÓTICO DOS RESÍDUOS DE PUÇÁ (*Mouriri elliptica* Mart.) E GABIROBA (*Campomanesia adamantium* (Cambess.)) O. Berg EM DIFERENTES ESPÉCIES DE MICRO-ORGANISMOS PROBIÓTICOS**

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Ata número **cento e setenta e oito** da sessão de Defesa de Dissertação de **Jéssica Pereira Barbosa**, que confere o título de Mestra em **Nutrição e Saúde**, na área de concentração em **Nutrição e Saúde**.

Aos trinta de agosto de dois mil e vinte e um, a partir das quatorze horas, **via webconferência**, realizou-se a sessão **Pública** de Defesa de Dissertação intitulada **“Potencial prebiótico dos resíduos de puçá (*Mouriri elliptica Mart.*) e gabiroba (*Campomanesia adamantium (Cambess.)*) O. Berg em diferentes espécies de micro-organismos probióticos”**. Os trabalhos foram instalados pela Orientadora, Professora Doutora **Patrícia Amaral Souza Tette (UFG)** com a participação dos demais membros da Banca Examinadora: Professora Doutora **Eliane Maurício Furtado Martins (IF Sudeste MG)**, membro titular externo; Professora Doutora **Sabrina Carvalho Bastos (UFLA)**, membro titular externo. A Banca Examinadora reuniu-se em sessão secreta a fim de concluir o julgamento da Dissertação, tendo sido a candidata **aprovada** pelos seus membros. Proclamados os resultados pela Professora Doutora **Patrícia Amaral Souza Tette**, Presidente da Banca Examinadora, foram encerrados os trabalhos e, para constar, lavrou-se a presente ata que é assinada pelos Membros da Banca Examinadora.

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## RESUMO

Puçá (*Mouriri elliptica* Mart) e gabiroba (*Campomanesia adamantium* (Cambess.) O. Berg) são frutos do Cerrado com alta qualidade nutricional e teor de compostos bioativos comprovadamente benéficos à saúde. Apresentam características favoráveis ao desenvolvimento de diversos produtos de interesse comercial. O processamento desses frutos pode gerar um volume significativo de resíduos, compostos principalmente por casca e sementes, que podem ter características nutricionais relevantes para alimentação humana, incluindo potencial prebiótico. Portanto, o objetivo deste estudo foi investigar o potencial prebiótico de resíduos de puçá (RP) e gabiroba (RG), frente a bactérias probióticas. A caracterização dos resíduos foi realizada por meio de análise centesimal, teor de fibras, açúcares, ácidos orgânicos e perfil de compostos fenólicos. A capacidade fermentativa de *Lactobacillus acidophilus* LA-05, *Lactobacillus casei* L-26 e *Bifidobacterium animalis* subsp. *lactis* BB-12 e os escores de atividade prebiótica (EAP) na presença de duas estirpes de *Escherichia coli* foram avaliados. RP e RG apresentaram elevados teores de fibra alimentar (55,70% e 65,29%), lipídios (18,48% e 13,05%) e RP apresentou considerável teor de carboidratos (12,90%). Concentrações consideráveis de compostos fenólicos foram encontradas nos resíduos: catequina ( $44,71 \text{ mg.L}^{-1} \pm 1,49$  em RG) e procianidina B2 ( $12,97 \text{ mg.L}^{-1} \pm 0,33$  em RP e  $13,88 \text{ mg.L}^{-1} \pm 0,72$  em RG). O cultivo dos probióticos em meio contendo RP e RG ( $20 \text{ g.L}^{-1}$ ) foi promissor pois as contagens bacterianas foram elevadas ( $9,27\text{-}13,23 \log \text{ UFC.mL}^{-1}$ ), o pH foi reduzido, os EAP foram positivos e semelhantes ao de fructooligossacarídeos ( $20 \text{ g.L}^{-1}$ ) para todas as estirpes, houve aumento da produção de ácidos graxos de cadeia curta (lático, acético e propiônico) e do consumo de glicose e frutose ao longo do tempo, indicando atividades metabólicas intensas. Os compostos fenólicos de ambos os resíduos pareceram estar envolvidos no mecanismo de atividade prebiótica positiva encontrada. Portanto, os resíduos de puçá e gabiroba são potenciais ingredientes prebióticos para uso na formulação de alimentos, aumentando o valor nutricional e reduzindo possíveis impactos negativos ao meio ambiente que seus descartes poderiam ocasionar.

Palavras-chave: potencial prebiótico; *Lactobacillus*; *Bididobacterium*; frutos do Cerrado.

## ABSTRACT

### **Prebiotic potential of puçá (*Mouriri elliptica* Mart.) and gabiroba (*Campomanesia adamantium* (Cambess.)) O. Berg residues on different species of probiotic microorganisms**

Puçá (*Mouriri elliptica* Mart) and gabiroba (*Campomanesia adamantium* (Cambess.) O. Berg) are fruits from Cerrado Savannah with high nutritional quality and content of bioactive compounds proved to be beneficial to health. Due to their favorable characteristics for industry food applicability, the fruit processing can generate a significant volume of residues, mainly composed by peel and seeds, that are nutritionally relevant and can be added into human food and may present prebiotic potential. Therefore, the aim of this study was to investigate the prebiotic potential of freeze-dried residues from puçá (PR) and gabiroba (GR). For this, the residues characterization was carried out through proximate analysis, fiber content, sugars, organic acids and phenolic compounds contents. The fermentative capacity of *Lactobacillus acidophilus* LA-05, *Lactobacillus casei* L-26 and *Bifidobacterium animalis* subsp. *lactis* BB-12 and the prebiotic activity scores (PAS) in the presence of two strains of *Escherichia coli* were evaluated. PR and GR presented high levels of dietary fiber (55.70% and 65.29%), lipids (18.48% and 13.05%), and PR showed considerable carbohydrate content (12.90%). Substantial content of phenolic compounds were found in the residues: catechin (44.71 mg.L<sup>-1</sup> ± 1.49 in GR), procyanidin B2 (12.97 mg.L<sup>-1</sup> ± 0.33 in PR and 13.88 mg.L<sup>-1</sup> ± 0.72 in GR). Cultivation of the probiotics in media with PR and GR (20 g.L<sup>-1</sup>) was promising, with high bacterial counts (9.27-13.23 log CFU.mL<sup>-1</sup>), decrease in pH values and positive PAS for all strains, similar to fructooligosaccharides (20 g.L<sup>-1</sup>), increased production of short-chain fatty acids (i.e., lactic, acetic, and propionic) and consumption of glucose and fructose over time, indicating intense metabolic activities. The phenolic compounds of the both residues may be involved on the mechanism of the prebiotic activity observed. Therefore, the residues from puçá and gabiroba are potential prebiotic ingredients for use in formulation of foods, increasing the nutritional value and reducing the negative impacts on the environment that can be caused by their discard.

Keywords: prebiotic potential; probiotic; *Lactobacillus*; *Bifidobacterium*, Cerrado.

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## CAPÍTULO 1

### 1 INTRODUÇÃO

A flora brasileira é uma das mais biodiversificadas Savanas tropicais do mundo, em que destacam-se vários frutos comestíveis nativos do Cerrado<sup>1</sup>. Apresenta uma diversidade de espécies frutíferas de formatos, cores, aromas e sabores peculiares, sendo que a parte comestível destes frutos têm sido documentada na literatura, em termos de sua qualidade nutricional e conteúdo de compostos bioativos benéficos à saúde<sup>2-4</sup>.

Entre as diversas espécies frutíferas do Cerrado, *Mouriri elliptica* Mart. é produzida por espécies da família *Melastomataceae* que pode ser encontrada em vários estados brasileiros, principalmente em Goiás<sup>5</sup>. O fruto, conhecido como puçá, possui formato arredondado de cor amarela-esverdeada e com a polpa laranja de sabor adocicado. Contém vitamina C, carotenóides, antocianinas e flavonóides, o que determina o seu elevado potencial antioxidante e justifica a sua inserção na alimentação humana<sup>6,7</sup>. Além da qualidade nutricional, o puçá apresenta características favoráveis, do ponto de vista tecnológico, para a aplicabilidade na indústria de polpas e sucos<sup>7</sup>. Outro fruto encontrado no Cerrado goiano é a gabiroba (*Campomanesia adamantium* (Cambess.)) O. Berg, que pertence à planta *Campomanesia adamantium*. Os frutos são pequenos, amarelo-esverdeados e de formato arredondado. Eles possuem polpa esbranquiçada envolvendo várias sementes e importantes nutrientes como fibras, ferro, potássio e cálcio, e elevados teores de antioxidantes<sup>8</sup>. A parte comestível da gabiroba apresenta sabor doce e rendimento consideravelmente alto, sendo um fator importante para intensificar seu uso como matéria-prima para compotas, geleias, sorvetes, picolés, sucos e licores, com boa aceitação sensorial<sup>9,10</sup>.

Nesse sentido, observa-se que estes frutos apresentam potencial tecnológico para o desenvolvimento de produtos em escala industrial, sendo já utilizados para a produção de picolés em Goiás. No entanto, o processamento destes pode contribuir para a produção de uma quantidade significativa de resíduos, compostos principalmente pela casca e semente. Pela falta de

infraestrutura e informações para tratar os resíduos gerados, estes muitas vezes são descartados no meio ambiente sem qualquer utilização comercial<sup>11</sup>.

As características das polpas de puçá e gabiroba já são conhecidas, porém estudos sobre a casca e semente são restritos apenas à composição centesimal e alguns compostos bioativos dos resíduos da gabiroba<sup>8,12</sup>. No entanto, sementes de frutos do Cerrado já apresentam grande potencial de aproveitamento devido ao alto teor de óleo, enquanto as cascas possuem concentrações consideráveis de fibras alimentares<sup>13</sup>. Dessa forma, os resíduos destes frutos podem apresentar características relevantes que tornam viáveis o desenvolvimento de alternativas para a sua utilização na elaboração de novos produtos de alto valor nutricional, uma vez que consumidores estão cada vez mais tendenciados a apresentar interesse maior em opções alimentares que apoiam a saúde intestinal<sup>14</sup>. Ao mesmo tempo, o estudo do resíduo traz soluções para a diminuição do impacto ambiental negativo causado pela geração excessiva desses subprodutos<sup>15,16</sup>.

Estudos têm investigado o valor funcional de frutos e seus resíduos, visando seu aproveitamento pela indústria de alimentos, e a atividade prebiótica *in vitro*, utilizando culturas probióticas<sup>11,17-19</sup>. Os prebióticos são substratos alimentares que beneficiam o indivíduo estimulando seletivamente os microrganismos hospedeiros<sup>20</sup>, promovendo melhorias na saúde como o aumento da absorção de minerais, estímulo do sistema imunológico, prevenção do câncer de cólon e de infecções gastrointestinais, e a redução do tempo de trânsito intestinal<sup>21,22</sup>. O alto teor de carboidratos não digeríveis presente em frutos os tornam uma potencial fonte de propriedades prebióticas<sup>23</sup>.

Neste contexto, o presente estudo teve por objetivo avaliar o potencial prebiótico *in vitro* de resíduos do puçá e gabiroba. Para tanto, foi determinada a composição centesimal dos resíduos estudados, bem como a capacidade de culturas de *Lactobacillus* e *Bifidobacterium*, com reconhecido potencial probiótico<sup>24</sup>, em utilizar estes resíduos como fonte de carbono e nutrientes. Os efeitos dos resíduos sobre a atividade metabólica bacteriana também foram avaliados.

## 2 REVISÃO DE LITERATURA

### 2.1 CARACTERÍSTICAS FÍSICAS, SENSORIAIS E COMPOSIÇÃO NUTRICIONAL DOS FRUTOS

#### 2.1.1 *Mouriri elliptica* Mart.

A flora brasileira é caracterizada por uma grande diversidade, onde destacam-se vários frutos comestíveis nativos do Cerrado produzidos por espécies da família *Melastomataceae*. Como representante desta família, a *Mouriri elliptica* Mart. (Figura 1) é uma espécie que pode ser encontrada em vários estados brasileiros, como Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Tocantins, Ceará e Goiás. Os frutos são popularmente conhecidos como puçá, croada, coroa de frade, croadinha, puçazeiro e manipuçá. Pertencem à divisão *Magnoliophyta*, classe *Magnoliopsida*, subclasse *Rosidae*, superordem *Myrtanae* e ordem *Myrtales*<sup>5</sup>.

É uma espécie frutífera arbórea, que pode atingir de quatro a seis metros de altura, típica do Cerrado, a frutificação ocorre de agosto a dezembro e por não ser climatérico, quando colhido verde, o fruto não amadurece<sup>25</sup>. Caracterizam-se por serem arredondados, amarelados-esverdeados e com mesocarpo laranja de sabor adocicado. Além da polpa, o puçá é composto por casca e três a cinco sementes de tegumento rígido e coloração amarronzada<sup>25,26</sup>.

**Figura 1.** a) Planta adulta de *Mouriri elliptica* (Mart.); b) Frutos em maturação e suas flores; c) Fruto maduro com três sementes.



Fonte: própria autora, 2021.

A polpa do fruto apresenta elevado potencial antioxidante, em razão da presença de vitamina C, carotenóides, antocianinas e flavonóides, o que justifica a sua inserção na alimentação humana<sup>6,7</sup>. A espécie também possui propriedades medicinais, podendo ser um recurso para indústria farmacológica pela presença de ácidos fenólicos e taninos<sup>27</sup>.

O fruto apresenta pH 4,42, considerado moderadamente ácido<sup>7</sup>. Em estudo feito por Sato et al.<sup>28</sup>, a polpa de pitaya apresentou pH 4,75, enquanto na casca de mangostão foi 4,0, e na casca e polpa de mandacaru 4,7, valores semelhantes ao encontrado na polpa e casca do puçá. Além de determinar o estado de deterioração do fruto, o pH pode indicar a aplicabilidade do puçá na indústria alimentícia, uma vez que possui valores próximos a frutos amplamente utilizados para produção de polpas e sucos<sup>29-32</sup>. A polpa do puçá possui percentuais consideravelmente baixos de amido<sup>6</sup>. Do ponto de vista tecnológico, baixos níveis desse polissacarídeo pode auxiliar na extração manual da polpa, sendo mais uma característica favorável à inserção do fruto em nível industrial<sup>33</sup>.

Apesar da escassez de estudos com o resíduo do puçá, composto por sementes e casca, essa fração do fruto também apresenta importância nutricional. Ao analisarem folhas e cascas de um fruto do mesmo gênero Mouriri, Bonacorsi et al.<sup>34</sup> observaram que este resíduo foi eficaz na cicatrização e prevenção de úlceras gástricas em ratos por apresentarem taninos, flavonóides e epicatequina em sua composição.

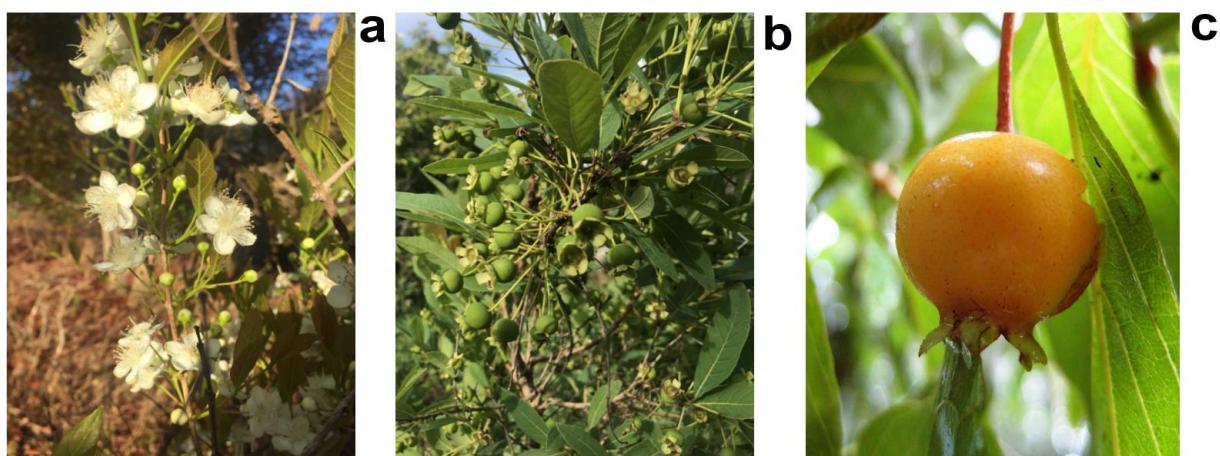
Nesse sentido, estudos sobre *Mouriri elliptica* Mart. são restritos a levantamentos sobre a polpa do fruto, enquanto análises das sementes e cascas se restringem à ciência agrotecnológica<sup>26,35</sup>. Por isso, a análise do resíduo total do puçá (casca e semente) é inovadora e importante para agregar valor nutricional a esse fruto pouco valorizado pela população local.

#### 2.1.2 *Campomanesia adamantium* (Cambess.) O. Berg

A gabiroba, também conhecida como guabiroba, guabiroba-do-campo e guavira, pertence à família Myrtaceae, que inclui 130 gêneros e cerca de 4000 espécies. O fruto apresenta estrutura arredondada, sendo considerado um fruto do tipo baga. Sua coloração altera de acordo com o processo de maturação, podendo variar do verde-escuro ao amarelo e conter de uma a nove sementes

(Figura 2). Existem divergências entre os estudos que caracterizam fisicamente os frutos de *Campomanesia* sp., em razão das diferentes espécies existentes estudadas ainda não domesticadas, o que leva a variação das características morfofisiológicas do fruto correspondente e podendo também estar relacionada às condições climáticas da região e ao tipo de solo. Quando pronto para a colheita, o fruto de *Campomanesia pubescens* apresenta peso médio de 4,5 g, diâmetro longitudinal de 18 mm e diâmetro transversal de 19,5 mm<sup>9,36</sup>.

**Figura 2.** a) Flores de *Campomanesia adamantium*; b) Frutos em maturação; c) Fruto maduro pronto para colheita.



Fonte: própria autora, 2021.

A parte comestível da gabiroba inclui a casca e a polpa, que apresenta coloração amarelada. Os frutos de *C. cambessedeeana* apresentam peso total aproximado de 4 g e contam com 1,5 g de massa comestível. Por isso, o rendimento da polpa da gabiroba é considerado elevado, sendo um fator importante para o desenvolvimento de alternativas que promovam a sua utilização como matéria-prima<sup>9</sup>. Como outras espécies pertencentes à família Myrtaceae, a polpa do fruto apresenta aroma cítrico, agradável e sabor adocicado, o que leva a ser consumida *in natura* ou na forma de doces em compota, geleias, sorvetes, picolés, sucos e licores, apresentando boa aceitabilidade<sup>10</sup>.

Dentre as diversas espécies de gabirobeiras (*Campomanesia* sp) existentes, os frutos comumente encontrados na região central do Estado de Goiás são os de *C. adamantium*. Um estudo realizado com polpas de frutos dessa espécie coletados nessa região, revelou teor de umidade elevado

(80,8%), baixo valor energético (49,1 kcal.100 g<sup>-1</sup>) e valores consideráveis de macronutrientes, ácido ascórbico e fibras, resultado similar ao encontrado nas gabirobas da região Oeste do Estado de São Paulo, que apresentaram altos teores de umidade (75,9%), carboidratos (11,6%), proteínas (1,6%), fibra alimentar (9,0%) e, principalmente, ácido ascórbico (234 mg.100 g<sup>-1</sup>)<sup>8,37</sup>. Silva et al. (2008)<sup>38</sup> também demonstraram resultados compatíveis, ressaltando a ingestão do fruto como uma considerável fonte de nutrientes.

Além dos nutrientes e compostos inorgânicos encontrados, a polpa da gabiroba (*C. adamantium*) apresentou alto conteúdo de fenólicos (1222,59 mg GAE.100 g<sup>-1</sup> FW) dentre eles, catequinas<sup>12</sup>. Malta et al. (2013)<sup>39</sup> também detectaram altos teores de flavonóides nos frutos da espécie *C. cambessedeeana*, o que pode explicar suas potenciais atividades funcionais. Plantas de solos ácidos apresentam altos níveis de produção de metabólitos secundários, como os fenólicos, por isso observa-se alta concentração destes em frutos do Cerrado<sup>38</sup>.

Foram identificados poucos estudos que caracterizassem quimicamente a parte residual do fruto, composta pela casca e semente. Nesses estudos, foram encontrados teores de lipídeos, proteínas, potássio, zinco, sódio, fibra alimentar, fenólicos totais e conteúdo energético consideravelmente maiores no resíduo comparados aos da polpa, indicando potencial atividade antioxidante da gabiroba e relevância do aproveitamento do resíduo deste fruto<sup>8,12</sup>.

## 2.2 GERAÇÃO DE RESÍDUOS DE PUÇÁ E GABIROBA

O desperdício de alimentos e o excesso de resíduos gerados a partir de perdas durante o processamento são temas atuais de grande preocupação e mobilização mundial<sup>16</sup>. A *Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations* (FAO) demonstra que 1,3 bilhão de toneladas de alimentos são jogados fora por ano no mundo, onde o Brasil ocupa o décimo lugar no ranking mundial dos países que mais perdem alimentos<sup>40</sup>. As perdas de alimentos são causadas por diversos motivos, entre eles, as ineficiências nas cadeias de infraestrutura e logística, e também a falta de conhecimento ou de investimento em tecnologias<sup>40,41</sup>. Alimentos de origem vegetal, durante toda sua cadeia produtiva, podem apresentar perdas significativas nos processos de colheita tardia,

condições climáticas não favoráveis, armazenamento inadequado, falta de planejamento e a não utilização integral de frutos<sup>42</sup>. A perda de alimentos de origem vegetal impacta negativamente o planeta, devido à utilização em vão de recursos ambientais, tais como o solo, energia, água e insumos<sup>40</sup>.

Uma grande quantidade de subprodutos é gerada diariamente pela indústria de processamento de alimentos. Estima-se que frutas inteiras processadas podem gerar subprodutos que compreendem até 90% dessas frutas, incluindo cascas, sementes e polpas<sup>43</sup>. A alta perecibilidade dos frutos contribui para a formação de resíduos e a sua deposição no meio ambiente, nas águas ou no solo geram impacto ambiental. Além disso, há perda de produto que ainda possui valor nutricional e econômico agregados. Com a crescente conscientização ambiental, diversos segmentos do mercado, órgãos governamentais, indústrias e pesquisadores visam soluções para a diminuição do impacto negativo da geração excessiva de resíduos<sup>15</sup>.

Contextualizando a situação do Brasil em virtude das problemáticas citadas, a valorização e utilização sustentável de um bioma regional torna-se necessária. Nesse sentido, é importante ressaltar os frutos nativos do Cerrado que se destacam pelo seu potencial nutritivo, consumo *in natura* e potencial de utilização em diferentes preparações, sendo considerados matérias-primas para a elaboração de produtos alimentícios<sup>44</sup>. A utilização dos resíduos do processamento de frutos tem sido estudada e demonstrou resultados positivos quanto à redução do desperdício de alimentos. Os resíduos podem conter muitas substâncias de alto valor nutritivo, como vitaminas, carotenóides, polifenóis e minerais que podem agregar benefícios à saúde humana, além de utilizar o alimento de forma integral, contribuindo para a sustentabilidade e redução da produção de resíduos orgânicos<sup>45,46</sup>. A maioria dos frutos do Cerrado frutificam durante dois terços do ano, no período compreendido entre os meses de agosto e março, quando ocorre maior consumo e aproveitamento agroindustrial desses frutos<sup>47</sup>.

O resíduo de gabiroba, constituído de casca e sementes, foi utilizado como ingrediente enriquecido na elaboração de hambúrguer de tilápia, alterando a coloração do hambúrguer de tilápia, aumento no teor de umidade e de fibras, gerando um produto funcional, segundo legislação<sup>48</sup>. Já os resíduos de puçá ainda não foram utilizados para a elaboração de produtos na literatura, no

entanto, o fruto é bastante consumido *in natura*, e utilizado para a elaboração de doces, sorvetes e geleias, gerando um volume considerável de resíduo<sup>7</sup>.

Assim, estes resíduos orgânicos devem ser estudados com o intuito de valorizar e estimular o seu aproveitamento integral. A literatura demonstra grande potencial de inserção desses frutos na alimentação humana e no desenvolvimento de produtos alimentícios em escala industrial<sup>49</sup>. Além disso, o consumo destes frutos, bem como sua exploração tecnológica, deve ser incentivado de forma sustentável a fim de valorizar as espécies nativas do Cerrado e reduzir o desperdício e o impacto ambiental.

### 2.3 PREBIÓTICOS

Os prebióticos são substratos não digeríveis usados como nutrientes para os micro-organismos presentes na microbiota intestinal. O efeito desses compostos pode se estender apenas a alguns grupos microbianos, e não a todos. Além desse critério para ser classificado como um prebiótico, um substrato não deve gerar consequências negativas para o hospedeiro, como a distensão abdominal por meio do excesso de produção de gás, ou o crescimento de micro-organismos patogênicos<sup>20</sup>.

A associação entre prebióticos e benefícios à saúde tem sido documentada na literatura<sup>50,51</sup>. As bactérias intestinais desempenham um papel importante no metabolismo das fibras alimentares, uma vez que as enzimas humanas são incapazes de digerir completamente essas substâncias. Vários produtos intermediários e finais são formados no processo de fermentação, incluindo gases, ácidos graxos de cadeia curta (AGCC), ácidos orgânicos, ácidos graxos de cadeia ramificada e outros produtos de proteólise<sup>21</sup>. Os principais AGCC gerados, como resultado de várias vias metabólicas bacterianas, são acetato, propionato e butirato<sup>20</sup>. Além de suas funções em vias de sinalização do hospedeiro, os AGCC são conhecidos por seus efeitos favoráveis sobre a imunidade, integridade das células epiteliais gastrointestinais, homeostase da glicose, metabolismo lipídico e regulação do apetite<sup>52</sup>.

Carboidratos não digeríveis, tais como fruooligossacarídeos (FOS), inulina e galactooligossacarídeos (GOS) são reconhecidos como prebióticos na literatura<sup>53</sup>. GOS é derivado da lactose encontrada naturalmente no leite de

mamíferos e consiste em cadeias de monômeros de galactose<sup>54</sup>. Uma das fontes alimentares de GOS mais pesquisadas é o leite materno e este estimula o crescimento de bactérias benéficas, especialmente *Bifidobacterium*<sup>55</sup>. Já o FOS é composto por uma molécula de glicose seguida por duas ou mais moléculas de frutose ligadas por ligações  $\beta$ -2,1 ou  $\beta$ -2,6 e é uma fibra não é digerida no intestino delgado, mas metabolizada pela microbiota no ceco, produzindo AGCC, L-lactato e outras moléculas bioativas benéficas à saúde<sup>56</sup>.

Outro carboidrato não digerível conhecido é a polidextrose, um polímero de glicose altamente ramificado, que possui em sua estrutura unidades aleatórias de glicose. Todas as combinações possíveis de ligações  $\alpha$  e  $\beta$  podem ocorrer em sua molécula. Por ter uma estrutura complexa, esse carboidrato não é hidrolisado pelas enzimas digestivas dos mamíferos no intestino delgado, chegando intacto ao cólon, onde é fermentado pela microbiota intestinal<sup>57</sup>. Assim, estudos apontam a polidextrose como um possível prebiótico, visto que o seu consumo ocasiona benefícios para o hospedeiro<sup>58,59</sup>.

Gibson et al. (2004)<sup>21</sup> descreveram que qualquer componente alimentar que atinge o cólon intacto apresenta um potencial prebiótico, porém, são necessários estudos mais aprofundados para a comprovação deste potencial. Sousa et al.<sup>60</sup> investigaram o potencial prebiótico da farinha de tubérculo de yacon a partir da determinação de números de células viáveis e atividade metabólica em quatro espécies probióticas (*Enterococcus faecium*, *Bifidobacterium animalis*, *Lactobacillus acidophilus* e *Lactobacillus casei*) e observaram que o alimento revelou uma potencial atividade prebiótica no crescimento das culturas testadas, provavelmente devido ao seu elevado conteúdo de FOS. Por meio de metodologia semelhante, Sánchez-Zapata et al.<sup>61</sup> confirmaram a propriedade dos coprodutos líquidos do extrato de noz de tigre como fonte de carbono para o crescimento de bactérias probióticas.

A polpa branca e vermelha da Pitaya, com altas concentrações de glicose, frutose e alguns oligossacarídeos (concentrações totais de 86,2 e 89,6 g / kg, respectivamente) tiveram seu potencial prebiótico determinados a partir de simulação gastrointestinal *in vitro*. A polpa apresentou resistência à hidrólise pelo suco gástrico artificial e pela  $\alpha$ -amilase humana, além de estimular o crescimento de *Lactobacillus delbrueckii* BCC 13296 e *Bifidobacterium bifidum* NCIMB 702715<sup>62</sup>. Resíduos de frutos como macaúba, jerivá e pedúnculo de caju

também já tiveram seu potencial prebiótico comprovado frente à diferentes cepas probióticas<sup>19,63</sup>.

Diante do contexto verificou-se que a literatura abrange uma diversidade de alimentos e seus subprodutos que já tiveram seu potencial prebiótico testados e comprovados por metodologias *in vitro*, porém ressalta-se que ainda não foram encontrados dados sobre o possível potencial prebiótico de frutos nativos do Cerrado, assim como de suas porções não comestíveis (casca e semente).

## 2.4 MICRO-ORGANISMOS PROBIÓTICOS

O conceito de probióticos foi discutido e modificado por muitos anos, mas em 2001 a FAO e a Organização Mundial da Saúde (OMS) definiram probióticos como “micro-organismos vivos que, quando administrados em quantidades adequadas conferem um benefício à saúde do hospedeiro”<sup>64</sup>. Diversos probióticos têm sido estudados em humanos e animais<sup>65</sup>. Dentre estes, encontram-se bactérias pertencentes aos gêneros *Lactobacillus* e *Bifidobacterium*, e em menor escala, *Enterococcus*, a levedura *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, bem como alguns *Bacillus* spp. A influência das bactérias sobre a microbiota intestinal humana envolve fatores como a competição exclusiva com patógenos e micro-organismos indesejáveis, efeitos antagônicos e imunológicos, resultando no aumento da resistência corporal do indivíduo<sup>66,67</sup>. Existe a possibilidade, portanto, que o aumento da população de bactérias benéficas no intestino grosso pode, juntamente com outros fatores, como o estado imunológico, oferecer maior proteção ao hospedeiro<sup>22</sup>.

As espécies probióticas pertencentes aos gêneros *Lactobacillus* e *Bifidobacterium* produzem ácidos lático e acético como principais produtos finais do metabolismo de carboidratos. Esses ácidos orgânicos podem diminuir o pH intestinal e impedir o crescimento de bactérias patogênicas<sup>68,69</sup>.

### 2.4.1 *Lactobacillus*

O gênero *Lactobacillus* é composto por mais de 170 espécies e 17 subespécies que são analisadas em diversos estudos a partir de inúmeras metodologias. São encontrados em uma variedade de alimentos, desde frutas e vegetais a produtos fermentados<sup>70-72</sup>. Nos seres humanos, os *Lactobacillus* se

encontram no trato gastrointestinal, na cavidade oral e na microbiota vaginal, mas também podem ser patógenos oportunistas ocasionais. São bactérias caracterizadas como bacilos, Gram-positivas, de forma regular e não esporuladas, anaeróbias facultativas e fermentativas. No trato gastrointestinal humano, há uma variedade de espécies, sendo predominante *Lactobacillus casei*, encontrada e isolada no intestino<sup>72</sup>.

*L. casei* é considerada uma espécie facultativamente heterofermentativa por fermentar hexoses em ácido-lático e produzir gás a partir de gliconato. Essa espécie também fermenta pentoses e produz ácidos lático e acético<sup>73,74</sup>. A espécie faz parte do “grupo *Lactobacillus casei*”, composto principalmente pelas espécies *Lactobacillus casei*, *Lactobacillus paracasei* e *Lactobacillus rhamnosus*<sup>75</sup>. Estas estão entre as espécies mais estudadas devido ao seu potencial comercial, industrial e de aplicação à saúde. São usadas comercialmente para fermentar produtos de laticínios, conferindo melhor sabor e textura aos alimentos produzidos. Também produzem muitos metabólitos bioativos que podem promover benefícios ao hospedeiro, sendo assim muitas culturas do “grupo *Lactobacillus casei*” podem ser consideradas probióticas<sup>76</sup>. A espécie *L. paracasei* foi caracterizada e isolada de fezes de recém-nascidos nativos de Taiwan. Essa cultura mostrou boa sobrevivência em pH baixo, tolerância a altas concentrações biliares e capacidade de reduzir o colesterol sérico *in vitro*<sup>77</sup>. Ainda neste grupo de bactérias, a espécie *L. rhamnosus* foi originalmente isolada de amostras fecais de um adulto humano saudável. Uma das principais características é sua forte capacidade adesiva, que foi documentada *in vitro* e *in vivo*. Em estudos de intervenção em humanos, também foi relatado que esta espécie persiste no intestino por mais tempo e em concentrações mais elevadas em comparação com outras espécies de *Lactobacillus*<sup>78-80</sup>.

A espécie *L. acidophilus*, do grupo de espécies homofermentativas estritas, que não fermentam pentoses, é considerada Gram-positiva e cresce em temperaturas de 37 a 42 °C<sup>81</sup>. A espécie atinge suas maiores taxas de crescimento em meios levemente ácidos (pH 5,5 a 6,0) e o crescimento cessa abaixo de pH 4,0<sup>82</sup>. Produz ácido lático a partir da fermentação de carboidratos e está entre os *Lactobacillus* menos tolerantes ao oxigênio<sup>83,84</sup>. Além disso, *L. acidophilus* é capaz de utilizar uma variedade de fontes de carbono para o seu

crescimento, tem características probióticas, é usada comercialmente em muitos produtos lácteos e encontrada naturalmente no trato gastrointestinal humano<sup>85,86</sup>.

Muito do conhecimento sobre o mecanismo de ação dos probióticos é baseado em pesquisas por meio de culturas probióticas em modelos *in vitro*<sup>87</sup>. Nesse sentido, considerando as características já documentadas de culturas de bactérias, como *Lactobacillus*, é possível considerá-las eficazes para metodologias de avaliação do potencial prebiótico de componentes alimentares *in vitro*.

#### 2.4.2 *Bifidobacterium animalis* subsp. *lactis*

*Bifidobacterium* é um gênero de bactérias probióticas anaeróbicas, Gram-positivas e produtoras de ácido lático. As *Bifidobacterium* foram descobertas e isoladas em 1899, nas fezes de crianças em aleitamento materno<sup>88</sup>. São relevantes nos estudos sobre microbiota intestinal humana, por serem capazes de inibir bactérias patogênicas e consequentemente melhorar a função da barreira gastrointestinal do hospedeiro<sup>89</sup>. Estudos recentes demonstraram que algumas espécies de *Bifidobacterium* tem o potencial de controlar várias doenças intestinais como câncer e alergias, além de aumentar a proporção de bactérias benéficas da microbiota<sup>90-92</sup>.

Dentre as diversas espécies de *Bifidobacterium* já isoladas, a *Bifidobacterium animalis* subsp. *lactis* BB 12® (BB-12®) é a mais documentada na literatura científica. A espécie foi inicialmente isolada de uma cultura de laticínios da Chr. Hansen e especialmente selecionada para a produção de laticínios probióticos, tornando assim, marca registrada da Chr. Hansen A/S. A partir de então, BB-12® tem sido utilizada em fórmulas infantis, suplementos alimentares e produtos lácteos fermentados em todo o mundo. É uma cultura com boa atividade de fermentação, estabilidade e tolerância à ácidos biliares. Destaca-se por sobreviver e não alterar sabor e aparência dos alimentos em que é adicionada, sendo, portanto, tecnologicamente adequada para o desenvolvimento de produtos alimentícios probióticos<sup>93,94</sup>.

BB-12® tem demonstrado seu efeito benéfico à saúde, tanto gastrointestinal quanto na função imunológica, em estudos com seres humanos. Podem interagir com o sistema imunológico de várias maneiras, por exemplo,

aumentando a produção sistêmica de anticorpos, a atividade das células imunes e modulando sinais nas células epiteliais<sup>95</sup>.

Em estudo controlado por placebo, avaliou-se o efeito de um iogurte simbiótico contendo BB-12® e inulina. As amostras fecais foram coletadas de 46 voluntários e as alterações na microbiota foram monitoradas usando a reação em cadeia da polimerase em tempo real (PCR). BB-12® foi recuperada nas amostras fecais e pôde ser detectada nas fezes até duas semanas após a ingestão<sup>96</sup>. Diante disso, essa cultura probiótica pode ser uma boa aliada para a avaliação de efeitos prebióticos de componentes *in vitro*.

## 2.5 COMPOSTOS FENÓLICOS E A MICROBIOTA INTESTINAL

O metabolismo nas células das plantas, frutos e vegetais envolve um conjunto de reações químicas que suprem as necessidades do organismo vegetal. Essas reações visam o aproveitamento de nutrientes a fim de satisfazer as exigências essenciais para a sobrevivência das células<sup>97</sup>. Esse metabolismo é dividido em primário e secundário. O metabolismo primário é responsável pela síntese de celulose, lignina, proteínas, lipídeos e açúcares, enquanto o secundário produz os metabólitos que apresentam atividades biológicas como proteção contra a perda excessiva de água e irradiação UV, defesa contra predadores e micro-organismos e atração de insetos e aves para reprodução<sup>98</sup>.

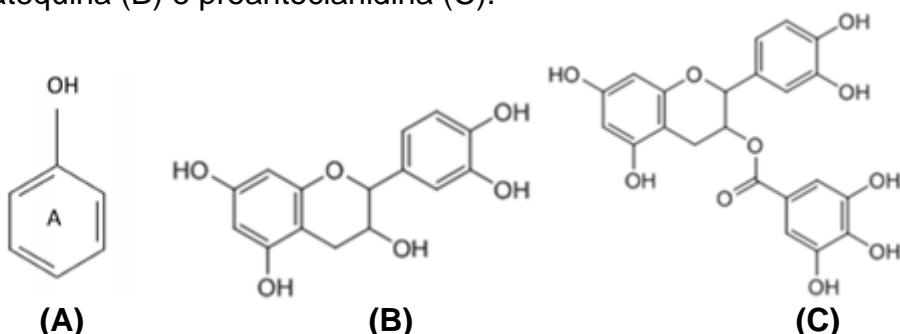
Os metabólitos secundários são divididos em três grandes grupos: compostos fenólicos, compostos terpênicos e alcalóides. A literatura concentra uma grande variedade de estudos sobre os compostos fenólicos, chamados também de polifenóis. Inicialmente, o interesse pelos polifenóis estava relacionado aos seus efeitos "antinutricionais" resultantes da capacidade desses compostos se ligarem a proteínas e minerais, diminuindo a digestibilidade e absorção dos nutrientes, porém os estudos se dedicam em demonstrar o efeito benéfico destes compostos na saúde humana<sup>99</sup>.

Uma das propriedades atribuídas aos polifenóis é a sua elevada capacidade antioxidante. Exercem esse papel não apenas pela sua habilidade em doar hidrogênio ou elétrons, mas também pela presença de radicais intermediários estáveis, que impedem a oxidação de vários elementos do alimento, particularmente os ácidos graxos<sup>100</sup>. Ainda, evidências de estudos

clínicos sugerem que os polifenóis podem apresentar propriedades prebióticas<sup>101,102</sup>. Grande parte dos polifenóis presentes na alimentação não são absorvidos no intestino delgado e, portanto, chegam ao cólon, onde passam por uma extensa metabolização mediada pela microbiota<sup>103</sup>.

Os polifenóis apresentam estrutura química complexa (Figura 3), possuem um ou mais anéis aromáticos hidroxilados, ou seja, ligados a um ou mais grupos hidroxila e geralmente estão presentes na forma glicosilada, ligada a uma estrutura polifenólica principal. Até hoje, mais de 10000 compostos diferentes já foram identificados e divididos em diversos grupos<sup>104,105</sup>. Com base na estrutura química e sua complexidade relacionada ao número de anéis aromáticos e substituintes, os polifenóis podem ser classificados em flavonoides e não flavonoides<sup>106</sup>.

**Figura 3.** Estrutura química do fenol simples (A); Flavonoides encontrados em frutas: catequina (B) e proantocianidina (C).



Fonte: Adaptado de Singh et al., (2019); Santhakumara, Battino, Alvarez-Suarez (2018).

Na dieta humana, os polifenóis mais abundantes são os flavonoides, grupo que apresenta seis subclasses: flavonóis, flavonas, isoflavonas, flavan-3-ols, flavanonas e antocianidinas<sup>107</sup>. Por apresentarem diversas propriedades funcionais, pesquisadores vem se dedicando a analisar e quantificar o conteúdo destes compostos em alimentos, principalmente frutos. No Brasil, foram compilados os dados encontrados na literatura, agrupados e adicionados à Tabela Brasileira de Composição de Alimentos (TBCA), na qual encontram-se diversos frutos nativos do bioma Cerrado, como Bacuri (*Scheelea phalerata* e *Mauritia flexuosa*), Cambuci (*Campomanesia phaea* e *Campomanesia phaea*) e Cagaita (*Eugenia dysenterica*)<sup>108</sup>. O conteúdo final de fenólicos presentes nas

frutas e hortaliças pode ser influenciado por diversos fatores, como a maturação, a espécie, as práticas de cultivo, a origem geográfica, o estágio de crescimento, as condições de colheita e o processo de armazenagem<sup>2</sup>.

Os flavonóis são estruturalmente caracterizados pela presença de uma insaturação entre carbonos, um grupo hidroxila e um grupo cetona<sup>109</sup>. Fogaliano et al., (2011)<sup>110</sup> realizaram um modelo colônico humano *in vitro* com o cacau, rico em flavonóis, no qual foi observado um aumento significativo de *Bifidobacterium* e *Lactobacillus*, e produção de butirato após a sua fermentação, demonstrando assim benefícios associados à inclusão de alimentos ricos em flavonóis na dieta.

Ainda no grupo dos flavonóides, as antocianinas são compostos com estrutura contendo uma ou mais unidades de monossacarídeos, reconhecidas por serem responsáveis pela cor vermelha, azul e roxa de frutas e vegetais<sup>111</sup>. Estudos *in vitro* e *in vivo* sugerem um potencial efeito anti-inflamatório desses compostos associados à microbiota, em razão da modulação intestinal associada ao aumento das culturas de *Bifidobacterium*<sup>112</sup>.

As catequinas, taninos condensados e as proantocianidinas são os compostos mais importantes da subclasse flavan-3-ol, que são facilmente extraídos em água e suas principais fontes alimentares são feijão, ervilha, tâmaras, uvas, nozes e bebidas como vinho e chá<sup>104</sup>. Mélo et al.<sup>113</sup> avaliaram os efeitos prebióticos *in vitro* de méis de abelhas da região semi-árida nordestina em relação aos probióticos *Lactobacillus acidophilus* e *Bifidobacterium animalis* subsp. *lactis* e observaram simultaneamente as alterações fenólicas em caldos com as amostras testadas. Os resultados encontrados sugeriram que o potencial prebiótico observado nos méis poderia estar relacionado à presença de compostos fenólicos, como catequinas, nas vias metabólicas dos probióticos avaliados.

Na classe dos não flavonoides, os ácidos fenólicos são os mais comuns na dieta humana. Apresentam máxima absorção no intestino delgado e podem ser produzidos a partir da degradação de proantocianidinas<sup>114,115</sup>. Xantonas, estilbenos, lignanas e taninos também pertencem à classe dos compostos fenólicos não flavonóides. São compostos com pelo menos dois anéis aromáticos na estrutura, enquanto apenas os taninos apresentam maior número de anéis. Os taninos são encontrados em leguminosas como feijão, frutas e

nozes<sup>116</sup>. Os taninos hidrolisáveis são divididos em duas subclasses: galotaninos e elagitaninos. Nos galotaninos, o ácido gálico é o ácido fenólico predominante, enquanto as elagitaninas são diferentes combinações de ácido gálico e ácido hexa-hidroxidifênico com glicose. Os estilbenos foram relatados na literatura como fenólicos não flavonóides presentes em uvas, amêndoas, feijões, mirtilos, amendoins, videira, cranberries, amoras, ameixa e vinho. Sua ingestão tem sido associada à diminuição do risco de hipertensão, diabetes e obesidade<sup>116</sup>.

Evidências de estudos clínicos sugerem que os polifenóis são capazes de expressar propriedades prebióticas e exercer atividades antimicrobianas sobre os micro-organismos patogênicos presentes no intestino, por isso é importante uma dieta rica em alimentos fontes destes compostos<sup>101</sup>. Determinados compostos fenólicos também participam da modulação da microbiota intestinal com estimulação do crescimento de microrganismos probióticos e aumento da produção de AGCC, sendo a catequina um flavonóide que pode ser metabolizado pela microbiota intestinal, gerando os ácidos hidroxifenilacético e hidroxifenilpropionico<sup>117</sup>. As catequinas também aumentaram o crescimento de *Bifidobacterium*, *Akermancia* e *Roseburia* em camundongos alimentados com uma dieta rica em gordura após o consumo de polifenóis do chá verde<sup>118</sup>. Procyanidina B2 é um precursor de antocianina oligomérica amplamente encontrado em bagas e evidências recentes mostram que este composto fenólico tem efeito prebiótico na microbiota intestinal *in vivo*<sup>119</sup>.

A interação entre os polifenóis e a microbiota intestinal é considerada mútua, ou seja, pode contribuir tanto com a saúde do hospedeiro a partir do potencial prebiótico, quanto na atividade biológica dos polifenóis, pois sabe-se que a microbiota é capaz de exercer um papel na funcionalidade destes compostos. Micro-organismos benéficos modulam mutuamente a atividade dos polifenóis, convertendo-os em substâncias menores e aumentando sua biodisponibilidade, tornando-os mais eficazes na saúde dos consumidores<sup>120</sup>.

### 3 OBJETIVOS

#### 3.1 OBJETIVO GERAL

Avaliar o potencial prebiótico *in vitro* dos resíduos de puçá e da gabiroba.

#### 3.2 OBJETIVOS ESPECÍFICOS

- Determinar a composição centesimal dos resíduos de puçá e da gabiroba;
- Analisar o teor de fibras alimentares totais, solúveis e insolúveis e açúcares dos resíduos dos frutos;
- Identificar o perfil de compostos fenólicos totais dos resíduos dos frutos;
- Avaliar o crescimento de bactérias probióticas (*Lactobacillus acidophilus* LA-05, *Lactobacillus casei* L-26 e *Bifidobacterium animalis* subsp. *lactis* BB-12) frente à utilização dos resíduos dos frutos;
- Determinar e comparar os escores de atividade prebiótica dos resíduos dos frutos.

## 4 MATERIAL E MÉTODOS

### 4.1 DELINEAMENTO DO ESTUDO

O presente trabalho é um estudo experimental *in vitro* e faz parte de um estudo matriz denominado “Resíduos do processamento de frutos do cerrado: potencial nutricional, prebiótico e preventivo de doenças crônicas” da Universidade Federal de Goiás (UFG). As análises de composição centesimal e ensaios *in vitro* foram realizadas no Laboratório de Higiene e Controle Sanitário de Alimentos (LCHSA), Laboratório de Nutrição Experimental (LANUTE) e Laboratório de Nutrição e Análise de Alimentos (LANAL), da Faculdade de Nutrição (FANUT) da UFG.

### 4.2 OBTENÇÃO DAS AMOSTRAS

O critério de escolha dos frutos do Cerrado analisados foi o período de frutificação destes, com o intuito de obtê-los no estado de maturação adequado para consumo. Foram selecionadas áreas em que os frutos colhidos se encontravam livres da presença de agrotóxicos.

Os frutos de puçá foram colhidos maduros, no pico da colheita, em novembro de 2019, na área experimental da Escola de Agronomia, da Universidade Federal de Goiás (UFG), em Goiânia-GO. Estavam localizados nas coordenadas geográficas 16° 35'47" de latitude sul e 49° 16'51" de longitude oeste a 730 m de altitude e em seguida foram transportados para o Laboratório de Vegetais e Derivados da Escola de Agronomia localizado no prédio da Faculdade de Engenharia de Alimentos da UFG. Os frutos de gabiroba foram obtidos na unidade de processamento de frutos do Cerrado, na cidade de Piracanjuba, localizada na região sul de Goiás (17° 17' 47" de latitude sul e 49° 0' 38" de longitude oeste) durante o período da colheita, em dezembro de 2018. Frutos em estágio de decomposição foram descartados e os passíveis de serem utilizados nos experimentos foram lavados em água corrente e pesados (Elgin®, Sa-110, Brasil).

O puçá e a gabiroba foram despolpados em uma despolpadeira industrial de 0,25 DF (Bonina®, Itabuna, Brasil), com peneiras de 2,5 mm, a fim de separar

a polpa do resíduo (casca e semente). As amostras dos resíduos foram homogeneizadas, liofilizadas (Lioto®, L108, Brasil) e trituradas em um liquidificador industrial (Metvisa®, Itabuna, Brasil) até a obtenção de um pó fino. Após o processamento, as amostras foram acondicionadas a vácuo (Selovac®, Microvac, Brasil) em embalagens transparentes, separadas e armazenadas sob refrigeração até o momento da análise. Assim, foram obtidos os resíduos liofilizados de puçá (RP) e os resíduos liofilizados de gabiroba (RG) (Figura 4).

**Figura 4.** a) Fruto de *Mouriri elliptica* (Mart.); b) Resíduos (cascas e sementes) do puçá após despolpamento; c) Resíduo do puçá pós liofilização e processamento; d) amostras embaladas à vácuo e e) resíduos de puçá e gabiroba liofilizados e processados, prontos para análise.



Fonte: própria autora, 2021.

#### 4.3 CARACTERIZAÇÃO FÍSICO-QUÍMICA DOS RESÍDUOS

##### 4.3.1 Composição centesimal

A composição centesimal dos RP e RG foi determinada por meio das análises de umidade, por secagem em estufa, nitrogênio total, segundo o método de micro-kjeldahl e conversão em proteína bruta, e cinzas. O teor de carboidratos totais foi estimado por diferença. A composição centesimal permitiu estimar o

valor energético das amostras, considerando-se os fatores de conversão de Atwater, de 4, 4 e 9 kcal.g<sup>-1</sup> para proteínas, carboidratos e lipídios, respectivamente<sup>121</sup>.

#### 4.3.2 Teor de fibras

Os teores de fibra alimentar total, insolúvel e solúvel dos resíduos liofilizados dos frutos foram determinados por meio do método enzimático-gravimétrico<sup>121</sup>.

#### 4.3.3 Perfil de fenólicos e açúcares

Extratos aquosos de RP e RG foram preparados para determinar o conteúdo de açúcares (maltose, glicose, ramnose e frutose) e ácidos orgânicos (cítrico, tartárico, málico, succínico, láctico, fórmico, acético e propiônico). Para a extração, 0,5 g de amostras foram diluídas em 10 mL de água ultrapura (Merck Milipore® Direct Q3, São Paulo, Brasil) a 50 °C e homogeneizadas em homogeneizador de amostras digital por 5 min. A mistura foi centrifugada (3000 x g 5 min, 24 °C) e o sobrenadante foi filtrado em membrana hidrofílica de poliamida com porosidade de 0,45 µm.

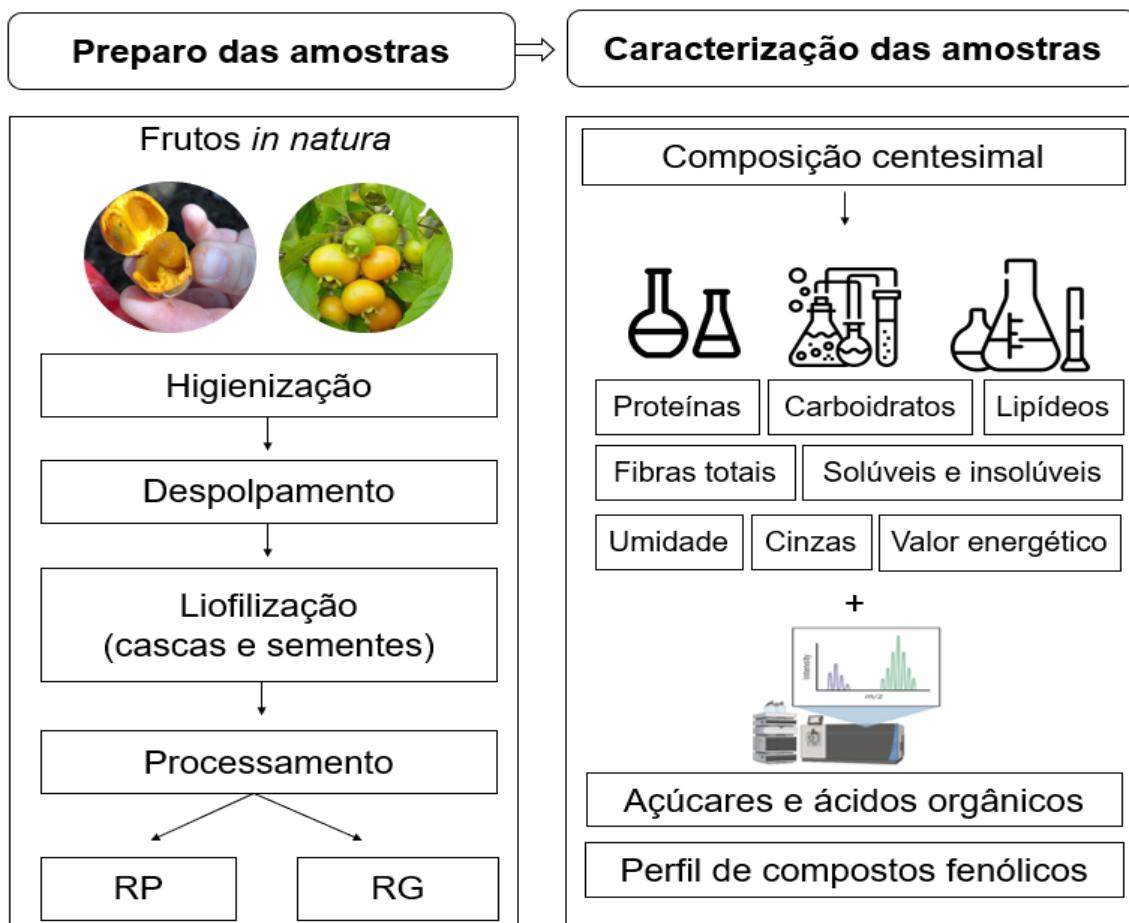
Extratos de metanol de RP e RG foram preparados para a determinação dos compostos fenólicos. 1 g das amostras foi adicionado em 5 mL de metanol 70% e homogeneizadas em ultrassom por 60 min. Em seguida as amostras foram centrifugadas (3000 x g 5 min, 24 °C) e o sobrenadante foi filtrado (membrana hidrofílica de poliamida com porosidade de 0,45 µm).

Em seguida, a determinação dos açúcares, ácidos orgânicos e do perfil de fenólicos foi realizada por cromatografia líquida de alta eficiência (HPLC), segundo Albuquerque et al.<sup>122</sup> usando um cromatógrafo Agilent (modelo 1260 Infinity LC, Agilent Technologies, St. Clara, CA, EUA) equipado com um bomba de solvente quaternário (modelo G1311C), desgaseificador, compartimento de coluna termostática (modelo G1316A) e amostrador automático (modelo G1329B), acoplado a um detector de matriz de diodos (DAD) (modelo G1315D) e detector de índice de refração (RID) (Modelo G1362A). Os compostos foram separados por meio de uma coluna Agilent Hi Plex H (7,7 × 300 mm, 8 µ), fase móvel H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> 4 mM / I em água ultrapura e taxa de fluxo 0,7 ml / min. Os dados

foram processados usando o software OpenLAB CDS ChemStation Edition™ (Agillent Technologies).

Os tempos de retenção e os picos dos cromatogramas das amostras foram identificados e comparados com padrões dos açúcares, ácidos orgânicos e fenólicos. A injeção foi realizada em duplicata e a quantificação dos teores de açúcares, ácidos e perfil de fenólicos foi feita por meio do cálculo das áreas médias dos picos (Figura 5).

**Figura 5.** Fluxograma das etapas de obtenção e caracterização das amostras



Fonte: própria autora, 2021.

#### 4.4 ENSAIOS *IN VITRO*

##### 4.4.1 Preparo do inóculo

Os ensaios *in vitro* foram realizados com três isolados probióticos conhecidos: *Lactobacillus acidophilus* LA-05, *Lactobacillus casei* L-26 e *Bifidobacterium animalis* subsp. *lactis* BB-12, provenientes da Coleção de Micro-organismos da Faculdade de Biotecnologia da Universidade Católica

Portuguesa (Porto, Portugal). As culturas de estoque foram mantidas em caldo Mann, Rogosa and Sharpe (MRS) (Kasvi, Espanha) com glicerol (Neon, Brasil) a -80 °C. Antes dos ensaios, culturas de *L. acidophilus* e *L. casei* foram crescidas por três dias consecutivos em caldo MRS a 37 °C durante 24 h em condições aeróbias. Para *B. animalis*, o caldo MRS foi suplementado com 0,5 g.L<sup>-1</sup> L-cisteína-HCl (Exodo, São Paulo, Brasil) em condições anaeróbias sob a mesma temperatura e tempo usados para *Lactobacillus*. A atmosfera anaeróbia foi gerada a partir de uma mistura composta por carbonato de cálcio, HCl e água, em jarra anaeróbia (Permution®, Brasil).

Culturas de *Escherichia coli* foram usadas para contagem de células viáveis a fim de determinar o escore de atividade prebiótica, descrita no item 4.4.5. *E. coli* ATCC 25922 e *E. coli* ATCC 8739, fornecidas pelo Laboratório de Higiene e Controle Sanitário de Alimentos da Faculdade de Nutrição da Universidade Federal de Goiás e Laboratório de Biotecnologia e Micro-organismos (LBMic) da Faculdade de Farmácia da Universidade Federal de Goiás (Goiânia, Brasil), foram mantidas em Brain Heart Infusion (BHI) (Kasvi, Espanha) a 37 °C por 18-20 h em condições aeróbias. As diferentes culturas de *E. coli* foram utilizadas em conjunto como uma mistura entérica em proporção de 1: 1. A densidade óptica (DO) de cada micro-organismo foi padronizada em espectrofotômetro (Jasco, EUA) a 655 nm de absorbância, aproximadamente 0,8 para as bactérias probióticas e 0,1 para as entéricas.

#### 4.4.2 Meio de cultivo bacteriano

O processo de fermentação foi realizado de acordo com a metodologia de Albuquerque et al.<sup>122</sup>, com adaptações. Para as análises experimentais, o caldo MRS com fonte de carbono modificada foi preparado e utilizado como meio basal para avaliar o crescimento bacteriano dos probióticos e a atividade metabólica em cada amostra. O meio preparado continha: triptona (Kasvi, Espanha) 10 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, extrato de carne (Kasvi, Espanha) 8 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, extrato de levedura (Kasvi, Espanha) 4 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, hidrogenofosfato de di-potássio (Neon , Brasil) 2 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, tween 80 (Neon, Brasil) 1 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, acetato de sódio (Neon, Brasil) 5 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, citrato de amônio tribásico (Sigma-Aldrich) 2 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, sulfato de magnésio (Neon, Brasil) 0,2 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, sulfato de manganês (Neon, Brasil) 0,04 g.L<sup>-1</sup> e sua respectiva fonte de carbono (RP ou RG) 20 g.L<sup>-1</sup>.

Para monitorar o crescimento das bactérias probióticas, três meios de cultura também foram preparados com glicose (Neon, Brasil), como controle não prebiótico, frutooligossacarídeos (Orafti, Bélgica) (FOS) como controle prebiótico positivo<sup>20</sup>, e sem adição de fonte de carbono como controle negativo. A concentração de cada fonte de carbono foi de 20 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, conforme o caldo comercial padrão MRS. Antes da inoculação dos micro-organismos no meio, cada meio com sua respectiva fonte de carbono foi colocado em banho ultrassônico (Unique, Indaiatuba, Brasil) por 60 min para auxiliar na dissolução completa das partículas.

Após preparo dos caldos, distribuição em tubos de 10 mL e esterilização em tubos (10 mL), os micro-organismos probióticos foram inoculados (200 µL) separadamente em cada caldo de cultivo específico. Os tubos foram homogeneizados e incubados a 37 °C por 24 h em condições aeróbias, para *L. acidophilus* e *L. casei* e anaeróbicas para *B. animalis*.

#### 4.4.3 Contagem de células viáveis probióticas

Para a contagem de células viáveis, o ágar MRS foi preparado de forma semelhante ao caldo, mas adicionado com ágar bacteriológico (Kasvi, Espanha) e suplementado com 0,5 g.L<sup>-1</sup> l-cisteína-HCl para o crescimento de *B. animalis*. Os tubos com 10 mL de cada meio e 200 µL de cada inóculo foram homogeneizados em vórtex por 10 s e 100 µL de cada tubo foram diluídos em série em solução salina estéril (8,5 g.L<sup>-1</sup>). Posteriormente, alíquotas de 20 µL de cada diluição foram semeadas em ágar MRS pela técnica de microgota em cada intervalo de tempo (tempo zero, imediatamente após a inoculação e homogeneização, após 12, 18, 24 e 48 h de incubação). As placas foram incubadas a 37 °C por 48 h e as células viáveis foram contadas (log UFC.mL<sup>-1</sup>).

#### 4.4.4 Avaliação da atividade metabólica bacteriana

Foram realizados pré-testes onde observou-se que os substratos analisados não apresentaram atividade antimicrobiana. Posteriormente, para avaliar a atividade metabólica bacteriana, foram analisados os valores de pH em meios de cultivo sob diferentes tempos de incubação (0, 12, 18, 24 e 48 h). Os valores de pH foram medidos com um medidor de pH digital (Adwa®, AD1000, Hungria).

#### 4.4.5 Determinação do escore de atividade prebiótica

O escore de atividade prebiótica (EAP) reflete quantitativamente a habilidade dos substratos em promover o crescimento de micro-organismos específicos na presença de competidores da microbiota, como *E. coli*, e em relação ao crescimento em substratos não prebióticos, como a glicose. Os escores foram calculados para cada micro-organismo probiótico em cada substrato testado. Nos ensaios de EAP o caldo M9 (Sigma-Aldrich) foi utilizado como meio basal com RP, RG, glicose e FOS ( $20\text{ g.L}^{-1}$ ). Antes da inoculação da mistura entérica, cada meio com sua respectiva fonte de carbono foi colocado em banho ultrassônico (Unique, Indaiatuba, Brasil) por 60 min. 100  $\mu\text{L}$  da mistura entérica foram adicionados em 10 mL de cada tubo e homogeneizados. 100  $\mu\text{L}$  da mistura foram diluídos em série em solução salina estéril ( $8,5\text{ g.L}^{-1}$ ). Posteriormente, alíquotas de 20  $\mu\text{l}$  de cada diluição foram semeadas em ágar Eosin Methylene Blue (EMB) (Kasvi, Espanha) pela técnica de micropota no tempo inicial (0 h) e após 48 h. As placas foram incubadas a  $37\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  por 48 h. As células viáveis da mistura entérica foram contadas ( $\log \text{UFC.mL}^{-1}$ ) e utilizadas como denominador da fórmula, enquanto as células viáveis probióticas contadas no meio contendo glicose com *Lactobacillus* e *Bifidobacterium*, em 0 e 48 h (descrito na seção 4.3.3) foram utilizadas no numerador da fórmula, previamente descrito por Huebner et al.<sup>123</sup>:

**Figura 6.** Equação para determinação do escore de atividade prebiótica dos resíduos de puçá e gabiroba.

$$\text{EAP} = \left( \frac{\frac{\text{PRO em PRE} - \text{PRO em PRE}}{(48\text{ h}) - (0\text{ h})}}{\frac{\text{PRO em GLI} - \text{PRO em GLI}}{(48\text{ h}) - (0\text{ h})}} \right) - \left( \frac{\frac{\text{ME em PRE} - \text{ME em PRE}}{(48\text{ h}) - (0\text{ h})}}{\frac{\text{ME em GLI} - \text{ME em GLI}}{(48\text{ h}) - (0\text{ h})}} \right)$$

EAP: Escore de atividade prebiótica; PRO em PRE: contagem de células ( $\log \text{UFC.mL}^{-1}$ ) do micro-organismo probiótico (*L. acidophilus* ou *L. casei* ou *B. animalis*) em meio de cultivo contendo resíduo de puçá ou de gabiroba ou FOS; PRO em GLI: contagem de células ( $\log \text{UFC.mL}^{-1}$ ) do micro-organismo probiótico (*L. acidophilus* ou *L. casei* ou *B. animalis*) em meio de cultivo contendo glicose; ME em PRE: contagem de células ( $\log \text{UFC.mL}^{-1}$ ) da mistura entérica (*E. coli* ATCC 25922 e *E. coli* ATCC 8739) em meio de cultivo contendo resíduo de puçá ou de gabiroba ou FOS; ME em GLI: contagem de células ( $\log \text{UFC.mL}^{-1}$ ) da mistura entérica (*E. coli* ATCC 25922 e *E. coli* ATCC 8739) em meio de cultivo contendo glicose.

#### 4.5 ANÁLISE ESTATÍSTICA

Os parâmetros físico-químicos foram avaliados em triplicata para RP e RG e os resultados foram expressos como média  $\pm$  desvio padrão. Os ensaios *in vitro* foram realizados em duplicata, em três experimentos diferentes. Os dados foram submetidos à análise de variância (ANOVA) seguida do teste de Tukey, e as diferenças foram consideradas significativas quando  $p \leq 0,05$ . O software utilizado para as análises foi o RStudio versão 2.15 (R Core Team, Viena, Áustria).

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## CAPÍTULO 2 – MANUSCRITO

**Prebiotic potential of residues from Cerrado native fruits, Puçá (*Mouriri elliptica Mart.*) and Gabiroba (*Campomansia adamantium*), on probiotic bacteria**

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### Abstract

The aim of this study was to investigate the prebiotic potential of residues from puçá (PR) and gabiroba (GR). The residues characterization was carried out through proximate analysis, fiber content, sugars, organic acids and phenolic compounds contents. The fermentative capacity of *Lactobacillus acidophilus* LA-05, *Lactobacillus casei* L-26 and *Bifidobacterium animalis* subsp. *lactis* BB-12 and the prebiotic activity scores (PAS) in the presence of two strains of *Escherichia coli* were evaluated. PR and GR presented high

levels of dietary fiber (55.70% and 65.29%), lipids (18.48% and 13.05%), and PR showed considerable carbohydrate content (12.90%). Substantial content of phenolic compounds were found in PR and GR: catechin ( $44.71 \text{ mg.L}^{-1} \pm 1.49$  in GR) and procyanidin B2 ( $12.97 \text{ mg.L}^{-1} \pm 0.33$  in PR and  $13.88 \text{ mg.L}^{-1} \pm 0.72$  in GR). Cultivation of the probiotics in media with PR and GR ( $20 \text{ g.L}^{-1}$ ) was promising, with high counts (9.27-13.23 log CFU.mL<sup>-1</sup>), decrease in pH values, positive PAS for all strains, similar to fructooligosaccharides ( $20 \text{ g.L}^{-1}$ ), increased production of short-chain fatty acids (i.e., lactic, acetic, and propionic) and consumption of glucose and fructose over time, indicating intense metabolic activities. The phenolic compounds of the both residues may be involved on the mechanism of the prebiotic activity observed. Therefore, the residues from puçá and gabiroba are potential prebiotic ingredients for use in formulation of foods, increasing the nutritional value and reducing the negative impacts on the environment that can caused by their discard.

**Keywords:** Cerrado fruits; prebiotic potential; *Lactobacillus*; *Bifidobacterium*; phenolic compounds.

## 1. Introduction

Cerrado is one of the most biodiverse tropical Savannahs in the world (Bailão et al., 2015). This Savannah produces a diversity of fruit species with peculiar shapes, colors, aromas, and flavors, and the edible part of these fruits has been investigated because of its nutritional quality and content of bioactive compounds beneficial to human health (Clerici & Carvalho-Silva, 2011; Oliveira et al., 2012; Souza et al., 2012).

*Mouriri elliptica* Mart. is a fruit of the *Melastomataceae* family that can be found in several Brazilian states, mainly in Goiás (Silveira, 2008). The fruit, known as puçá, has

a greenish-yellow color, round shape and a sweet orange pulp that contains vitamin C, carotenoids, anthocyanins, and flavanols, which determines its high antioxidant potential and justifies its inclusion in human consumption (Rufino et al., 2009; Rufino et al., 2010). In addition to the nutritional quality, from a technological point of view, puçá has favorable characteristics for its applicability in the pulp and juice industry (Rufino et al., 2009).

Besides puçá, *Campomanesia adamantium* (Cambess.) O. Berg is another native fruit from Cerrado from the *Myrtaceae* family and it is called gabiroba. The fruits are small, has greenish-yellow color and round shape, with a whitish pulp involving several seeds. Important nutrients such as fiber, iron, potassium, and calcium, and high levels of antioxidants are present in the fruit (Alves et al., 2013). The edible part of gabiroba has a sweet flavor and considerably high yield, being an important factor to intensify its use for jams, jellies, ice cream, popsicles, juices, and liqueurs producing, with good sensory acceptance (Cândido et al., 2009; Morzelle et al., 2015).

Puçá and gabiroba fruits have technological potential for the development of products on an industrial scale, already being used for the production of popsicles in Goiás. However, fruit processing can generate a significant volume of residues, mainly composed of peel and seed that are often discarded into the environment without any commercial use (Babbar et al., 2011). The nutritional characteristics of the pulp of these fruits are already known, but studies about the peel and seeds are restricted to the centesimal composition and bioactive compounds (Alves et al., 2013, 2017). These residues have relevant characteristics for the development of new products with high nutritional value (Majerska et al., 2019; Oldfield et al., 2016).

Studies have investigated the functional value of fruit residues and their prebiotic potential, because of the high content of non-digestible carbohydrates, aiming their use

by the food industry (Andrade et al., 2020; Babbar et al., 2011; Barros et al., 2012; Duarte et al., 2017; Viscardi et al., 2017). According to (Gibson et al., 2017), prebiotic is a substrate selectively used by host microorganisms that are capable of promoting health benefits. These microorganisms are known as probiotics, and in the fermentation process, they produce metabolites such as short-chain fatty acids (SCFA) that may promote beneficial effects in health (Al-Sheraji et al., 2013; Gibson et al., 2004).

In this context, the present study aims to evaluate the *in vitro* prebiotic potential of puçá and gabiroba residues. Therefore, the physicochemical characteristics of the studied residues were determined, as well as the capacity of cultures of *Lactobacillus* and *Bifidobacterium*, with recognized probiotic potential, to use these residues as a carbon source. The effects of residues on bacterial metabolic activity, related to pH values decrease, were also evaluated.

## 2. Material and methods

### 2.1 Fruit collection and residues preparation

The fruits were collected in the mature stage for consumption in areas free from pesticides. Puçá fruits were harvested in the experimental area of the School of Agronomy in Federal University of Goiás ( $16^{\circ} 35'47''$  S  $49^{\circ} 16'51''$  W, Goiás, Brazil) and the gabiroba fruits were obtained in the Cerrado fruit processing unit in Piracanjuba ( $17^{\circ} 17' 47''$  S  $49^{\circ} 0' 38''$  W, Goiás, Brazil). Selected fruits to be used in the experiments were transported to the Laboratory, washed in running water, and weighed (Elgin<sup>®</sup>, Sa-110, Brazil).

Peel and seeds from puçá and gabiroba were separated from the pulp in an industrial pulping machine 0.25 DF (Bonina®, Itabuna, Brazil), sieved 2.5 mm. The residues samples (peel and seeds) were homogenized, freeze-dried (Liotop®, L108, Brazil) and crushed in an industrial blender (Metvisa®, Itabuna, Brazil) until obtaining a powder that were vacuum-packed (Selovac®, Microvac, Brazil) in transparent packages, wrapped in aluminum foil, separated, and stored under refrigeration (-18 °C) until the moment of analysis. Thus, freeze-dried puçá residues (PR) and freeze-dried gabiroba residues (GR) were obtained.

## *2.2 Characterization of freeze-dried puçá and gabiroba residues*

### *2.2.1 Physicochemical characterization*

Physicochemical characteristics of PR and GR were determined with standards procedures. The samples were evaluated separately for moisture, ash, total nitrogen according to micro-kjeldahl method, and protein. Total carbohydrate content was estimated by difference. The centesimal composition allowed estimating the energy value of the samples, considering the Atwater conversion factors of 4.0, 4.0 and 9.0 kcal.g<sup>-1</sup> for proteins, carbohydrates, and lipids, respectively. An enzymatic-gravimetric method was used to measure the total, soluble and insoluble fiber contents (AOAC, 2010).

### *2.2.2 Sugars, organic acids and phenolic compounds content*

To determine sugar content (maltose, glucose, rhamnose and fructose) and organic acids (citric, tartaric, malic, succinic, lactic, formic, acetic and propionic), aqueous extracts of PR and GR were prepared. 0.5 g of the samples were diluted in 10 mL of

ultrapure water (Merck Milipore® Direct Q3, São Paulo, Brasil) at 50 °C in a microprocessed digital sample homogenizer for 5 min. The mixture was centrifuged (3000 x g 5 min, 24°C) and the supernatant was filtered (hydrophilic polyamide membrane with porosity of 0.45 µm). To determine the phenolic compounds, methanol extracts of PR and GR were also prepared. 1 g of the samples were added in 5 mL of methanol 70% and homogenized in ultrasound bath (USC-2800 A, Unique, Indaiatuba, Brazil) for 60 min. Then the samples were centrifuged (3000 x g 5 min, 24 °C) and the supernatant was filtered (hydrophilic polyamide membrane with a porosity of 0.45 µm).

Subsequently, the extracts were analyzed in high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), according to Lima et al. (2019). An Agilent chromatograph model 1260 Infinity LC, Agilent Technologies, St. Clara, CA, USA was used with a quaternary solvent pump (G1311C model), degasser, thermostatic column compartment (G1316A model) and automatic auto sampler (G1329B model), coupled with a diode array detector (DAD) (G1315D model) and refractive index detector (RID) (G1362A model). The other analytic conditions were as follows: an Agilent Hi-Plex H column (7.7 × 300 mm, 8 µ); mobile phase H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (4 mM/l) in ultrapure water; and flow rate 0.7 ml/min. The data were processed using the OpenLAB CDS ChemStation Edition™ software (Agilent Technologies). The HPLC sample peaks were measured by comparing their retention times with the previously mentioned standards of sugars, organic acids and phenolic compounds (Sigma-Aldrich). Duplicate injections were done and average peak areas were used for quantification using the standards (Lima et al., 2019).

### *2.3 In vitro determination of prebiotic potential*

#### *2.3.1 Microorganisms and growth conditions*

The *in vitro* assays were performed with three isolates with well-known probiotic properties (Fijan, 2014): *Lactobacillus acidophilus* LA-05, *Lactobacillus casei* L-26, and *Bifidobacterium animalis* subsp. *lactis* BB-12, supplied by the Microorganisms Collection of the Faculty of Biotechnology at the Catholic University of Portugal (Porto, Portugal). Stock cultures were maintained in Mann, Rogosa and Sharpe (MRS) broth (Kasvi, Spain) with glycerol (Neon, Brazil) at -80 °C. Before the assays, *L. acidophilus* and *L. casei* cultures were reactivated three times in MRS broth at 37 °C during 24 h under aerobic conditions. To reactivate *B. animalis*, MRS broth was supplemented with 0.5 g.L<sup>-1</sup> l-cysteine-HCl (Exodo, São Paulo, Brazil) under anaerobic conditions at the same temperature and time for *Lactobacillus*. The anaerobic atmosphere was generated from a mixture composed of calcium carbonate, HCl and water, in an anaerobic jar (Permution®, Brazil).

Cultures of *Escherichia coli* were used to determine the prebiotic activity score (described in section 2.3.5). *E. coli* ATCC 25922 and *E. coli* ATCC 8739, supplied by Food Hygienic and Sanitary Control Laboratory of the School of Nutrition at the Federal University of Goias and Laboratory of Biotechnology and Microorganisms (LBMic) of the Faculty of Pharmacy at the Federal University of Goiás (Goiânia, Brazil), were maintained in Brain Heart Infusion (BHI) (Kasvi, Spain) at 37 °C for 18-20 h under aerobic conditions. The different cultures of *E. coli* were used together as an enteric mixture with a ratio of 1:1 (T. M. R. Albuquerque et al., 2020). The optical density (OD) of each microorganism was standardized in a spectrophotometer (Jasco, USA) at 655 nm of absorbance, being approximately 0.8 for the probiotic bacteria and 0.1 for the enteric bacteria.

### 2.3.2 Bacterial cultivation media

The fermentation process was performed according to the methodology adapted from (Albuquerque et al., 2020). For the experimental analyses, MRS broth with modified carbon source was prepared and used as a basal medium to evaluate the probiotic bacterial growth and metabolic activity in each sample. The composition of the prepared media was: tryptone (Kasvi, Spain) 10 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, meat extract (Kasvi, Spain) 8 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, yeast extract (Kasvi, Spain) 4 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, di-potassium hydrogen phosphate (Neon, Brazil) 2 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, tween 80 (Neon, Brazil) 1 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, sodium acetate (Neon, Brazil) 5 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, tribasic ammonium citrate (Sigma-Aldrich) 2 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, magnesium sulfate (Neon, Brazil) 0.2 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, manganese sulfate (Neon, Brasil) 0.04 g.L<sup>-1</sup> and their respective carbon source (PR or GR) 20 g.L<sup>-1</sup>.

For monitoring the growth of the probiotic strains, three medias were also prepared with glucose (Neon, Brazil) (GLU), as a non-prebiotic control, fructooligosaccharides (Orafti, Bélgica) (FOS) as a positive prebiotic control (Gibson et al., 2017), and without carbon source added (WCS) as a negative control. The concentration of each carbon source was 20 g.L<sup>-1</sup>, as the standard commercial MRS broth. Before inoculating the microorganisms into the media, each media with their respective carbon source were placed in an ultrasonic bath (Unique, Indaiatuba, Brazil) for 60 min in order to dissolve the particles completely.

After medias preparation and sterilization in tubes (10 mL), the probiotic microorganisms were inoculated (200 µL) separately in each specific cultivation broth. The tubes were homogenized and incubated at 37 °C for 24 h in aerobic conditions, for *L. acidophilus* and *L. casei* and in anaerobic conditions for *B. animalis*.

### *2.3.3 Measurement of probiotic viable cell counts*

For the enumeration of viable cell counts, MRS agar was prepared similarly to the broth, but added with bacteriological agar (Kasvi, Spain) and supplemented with 0.5 g.L<sup>-1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> l-cysteine-HCl for *B. animalis* plates. The tubes with 10 mL of each media and 200 µL of each inoculum were homogenized in vortex for 10 s and 100 µL of each tube were serially diluted in sterile saline solution (8.5 g.L<sup>-1</sup>). Subsequently, 20 µL aliquots of each dilution were plated on MRS agar by the drop plate technique (Herigstad et al., 2001) in each interval time: zero (immediately after inoculation and homogenization), after 12, 18, 24, and 48 h of incubation. The plates were incubated at 37 °C for 48 h and the viable cells were counted ( $\log \text{CFU}.\text{mL}^{-1}$ ) (Mousavi & Mousavi, 2019).

#### 2.3.4 Evaluation of bacterial metabolic activity

To evaluate the bacterial metabolic activity, the pH values in cultivation media at different incubation time (0, 12, 18, 24 and 48 h) were analyzed. The pH values were measured using a digital pH meter (Adwa®, AD1000, Hungary). Sugar consumption and organic acid production were also evaluated at all incubation time, using HPLC as described in section 2.2.2.

#### 2.3.5 Measurement of prebiotic activity scores

The prebiotic activity score (PAS) reflects quantitatively the ability of substrates to promote the growth of specific microorganisms in the presence of microbiota competitors, such as *E. coli*, and comparing to the growth in non-prebiotic substrates, such as GLU. For PAS assays, M9 broth (Sigma-Aldrich) was used as a basal medium with PR, GR, GLU and FOS (20 g.L<sup>-1</sup>). Before inoculating the enteric mixture, each media with their respective carbon source were placed in an ultrasonic bath (Unique, Indaiatuba, Brazil) for 60 min. 100 µL of the enteric mixture were added in 10 mL of each tube and homogenized. 100 µL of the mixture were serially diluted in sterile saline solution (8.5 g.L<sup>-1</sup>). Subsequently, 20 µL aliquots of each dilution were plated on Eosin

Methylene Blue (EMB) (Kasvi, Spain) agar by the drop plate technique in initial time (0 h) and after 48 h. The plates were incubated at 37 °C for 48 h. The viable cells were counted ( $\log \text{CFU.mL}^{-1}$ ) and used as the denominator of PAS formula, while the probiotic viable cells counted in media with GLU with *Lactobacillus* and *Bifidobacterium*, at 0 and after 48h (described in section 2.3.3) were used in the numerator of the formula, previously described by (Huebner et al., 2007):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{PAS} \\ = & \left( \frac{\text{probiotic log CFU.mL}^{-1} \text{ on prebiotic at } 48 \text{ h} - \text{probiotic log CFU.mL}^{-1} \text{ on prebiotic at } 0 \text{ h}}{\text{probiotic log CFU.mL}^{-1} \text{ on glucose at } 48 \text{ h} - \text{probiotic log CFU.mL}^{-1} \text{ on glucose at } 0 \text{ h}} \right) \\ - & \left( \frac{\text{enteric log CFU.mL}^{-1} \text{ on prebiotic at } 48 \text{ h} - \text{enteric log CFU.mL}^{-1} \text{ on prebiotic at } 0 \text{ h}}{\text{enteric log CFU.mL}^{-1} \text{ on glucose at } 48 \text{ h} - \text{enteric log CFU.mL}^{-1} \text{ on glucose at } 0 \text{ h}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

#### 2.4 Statistical analysis

Physicochemical parameters were performed in triplicate for PR and GR and results were expressed as average  $\pm$  standard derivation. In *in vitro* assays, for each one of the isolates, the evaluations were carried out in biological duplicates in three different experiments. The data were submitted to analysis of variance (ANOVA), followed by the Tukey test. Differences were considered statistically significant when  $p \leq 0.05$ . Deviations from normality of the residuals were evaluated using the Shapiro-Wilk's test. In general, for all variations, a good adjustment to normality was observed. The software used for the analysis was R Core Team (2021): R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria.

### 3. Results and discussion

Freeze-dried residues of puçá and gabiroba showed notable lipid content (18.48%  $\pm$  0.0 and 13.05%  $\pm$  0.53) that can be explained by the presence of seeds in the samples (Table 1). Fruits seeds from Cerrado have great exploitation potential due to their high oil content, such as pequi, murici and sweet passionfruit seeds, with 50%, 15% and 29.6% of lipid, respectively (Araújo et al., 2018). Therefore, puçá and gabiroba seeds could also be used for oil extraction.

**TABLE 1**

PR showed high content of carbohydrates (12.90%  $\pm$  0.50), such as jerivá byproduct, a fruit from palm tree, which presented 11.58% of carbohydrates (Andrade et al., 2020). PR and GR also contain glucose and fructose in their composition that can be fermentable substrates to improve the growth of probiotic bacteria from microbiota. *Lactobacillus* and *Bifidobacterium* species are capable of converting glucose and fructose into lactic acid and acetic acid, known as important metabolic features of the fermentation process (Kaprasob et al., 2017; Sousa et al., 2015). After the consumption of simple carbohydrates, probiotic microorganisms consume nondigestible carbohydrates, lowering the pH and reducing the pathogens of the gut (Lamsal, 2012; Slavin, 2013).

The proximate composition of puçá peel and seeds has not been documented until now. The dietary fiber content in PR was high, especially the insoluble fiber. In 100 g, 55.70 g of insoluble fibers were found, higher than the content observed in the freeze-dried byproduct of cashew apple (27.72%) (Duarte et al., 2017). Insoluble fibers are generally poorly fermented by gut microbes, but their presence in the diet increases fecal volume, reduce intestinal transit time that reaches the intestine, and thus reduces the amount of time available for colonic bacterial fermentation of non-digested food (Holscher, 2017; Roberfroid, 2007). Furthermore, fruit residues with greater dietary fiber content can be used a potential ingredient for food products, such as cookies, cakes and

cereal bars, minimizing waste and encouraging the sustainable development of Cerrado Savannah (Albuquerque et al., 2015; Morzelle et al., 2015). GR also presented high amounts of total fiber ( $65.29\% \pm 0.64$ ), and a higher content of soluble fiber than PR. Soluble fibers, such as FOS, are largely metabolized by bacteria more proximally in the gastrointestinal tract, therefore, it is expected a greater prebiotic potential of GR (Holscher, 2017).

PR and GR presented important values of phenolic compounds (Table 2). A study has demonstrated that gabiroba peel and seeds present higher content of phenolic compounds ( $1787.65 \text{ mg AGE.}100\text{g}^{-1}$ ) than the gabiroba pulp ( $1222.59 \text{ mg AGE.}100\text{g}^{-1}$ ) (Alves et al., 2013). Comparing to traditional consumed fruits and others residues from exotic fruits, such as jatobá peel and araçá-boi seeds, GR stands out in phenolic compounds content and antioxidant capacity (Contreras-Calderón et al., 2011). The proximate composition and phenolic compounds content of the residues suggests technological potential to novel food products production for human consumption with health benefits.

## TABLE 2

Recent studies have shown that certain phenolic compounds also participate in the modulation of the intestinal microbiota with growth stimulation of probiotic microorganisms and increase production of SCFA, assuming the role of prebiotics (Alves-Santos et al., 2020; Tomás-Barberán et al., 2016). Substantial content of catechin was observed in GR ( $44.71 \text{ mg.L}^{-1} \pm 1.49$ ), a flavonoid that can be metabolized by gut microbiota, generating hydroxy phenylacetic and hydroxyphenyl propionic acids (Shortt et al., 2018). Catechins also increased the growth of *Bifidobacterium*, *Akermancia* and *Roseburia* in mice fed a high-fat diet after the consumption of green tea polyphenols (Dey et al., 2019; Ma et al., 2019).

Notable contents of procyanidin B2 were found in both residues ( $12.97 \text{ mg.L}^{-1} \pm 0.33$  for PR and  $13.88 \text{ mg.L}^{-1} \pm 0.72$  for GR). This polyphenol is an oligomeric anthocyanin precursor widely found in berries and recent evidence shows a significantly improve on the proportions of *Bacteroidetes* and *Akkermansia* on the gut microbiota of rabbits supplemented with this compound (Xing et al., 2019). Also, beneficial microorganisms mutually modulate the activity of polyphenols, converting them into smaller substances and increasing their bioavailability, making them more effective in the health of consumers (Guergoletto et al., 2016). Therefore, polyphenols can modulate the intestinal microbial composition and, consequently, can indirectly influence their own metabolism and bioavailability (Duda-Chodak et al., 2015). This fact shows that polyphenols founded in PR and GR and their metabolites contribute to the promotion of intestinal health.

To evaluate if Cerrado fruits residues could promote the growth of potentially probiotic bacteria, *in vitro* assays were performed. Viable cell counts in growth media during fermentation represent intense metabolic activities (Duarte et al., 2017). The microbial growth ( $\log \text{CFU.mL}^{-1}$ ) of the probiotic strains were higher between the times 12, 18 and 24 h for all the media with substrates, except in the media without addition of carbon source, which did not show any growth for any of the tested bacteria ( $p > 0.05$ ) (Figure 1B, 1D and 1F). Therefore, the increased growth verified in media containing each of the added carbon sources is related to the potential for survival and growth enhancement of these probiotic bacteria. The experimental conditions were also validated through experiments with positive controls performed with modified MRS broth supplemented with GLU and FOS.

When evaluating the growth curves, PR and GR were used as a substrate for all of the probiotic microorganisms, and better growth was observed for *L. casei* strain in the

media with GR. When compared to the growth of *L. acidophilus* and *B. animalis*, the difference between their growths with the same substrate can be attributed to the ability of specific carbohydrates metabolism resulting from the genomic and metabolic diversity of *Lactobacillus* and *Bifidobacterium* (Martino et al., 2016; Watson et al., 2013).

## **FIGURE 1**

In 12, 24 and 48 h of incubation, the growth of *L. acidophilus* on media containing GR was similar to the growth in media with GLU and FOS ( $p > 0.05$ ). There was no decrease on the growth of *L. acidophilus* and *B. animalis* in the medium containing PR during the totally incubation time, while in the media with GLU and FOS, a decrease was observed, suggesting that the culture medium containing PR seems to better support the growth of these probiotic bacteria during the incubation (Figure 1B and 1F). It is known that complex carbohydrates are absorbed more slowly than glucose, been used as an energy source in fermentation to produce beneficial metabolites for human (Koh et al., 2016). In addition, prolonged of cell viability of probiotic through the time may prolong the microbial beneficial effects on the host by interactions with the epithelium and immune cells of the intestine (Jung et al., 2021).

The results of the viable cell count assays showed that the medium containing PR and GR promoted the growth of the tested probiotic cultures. Therefore, pH determination assays were performed to confirm the prebiotic effects. As expected, considerable decreases were observed in the pH values of the media containing GLU, FOS, PR and GR in all tested strains. Media without carbon source presented minimum low of pH. Lowest pH values of cultivation media were reached after 18 or 48 h (Figure 1A, 1C and 1E).

After 48 h of fermentation at 37 °C, the positive control samples (GLU and FOS) had pH decrease up to 3.2 and in the medium containing PR and GR up to 4.7. The lowest

pH value at the end of the cultivation was found in the medias inoculated with *B. animalis*, where GR presented lower pH than PR. *Bifidobacterium* can use non-digestible carbohydrates of plant cell walls, indicating the potential prebiotic of these compounds (Cantu-Jungles et al., 2017). Therefore, the media with GR reached a higher decrease in pH compared to PR on *B. animalis* growth, which may be explained by the GR composition, with fructose ( $2.27 \text{ g.L}^{-1} \pm 0.06$ ) and glucose ( $1.49 \text{ g.L}^{-1} \pm 0.04$ ), high insoluble fiber content (63.79%), as well as a significant soluble fiber content (1.5%) (Andrade et al., 2016; Capuano, 2017; Holscher, 2017).

At 12, 18 and 24 h of fermentation by *B. animalis*, media with PR and GR presented decrease on pH values statistically similar to FOS ( $p < 0.05$ ), a prebiotic compound used to stimulate the growth of probiotic bacteria through cross feeding interactions and promotes the production of SCFAs with health-promoting benefits that can regulate gut functions, such as mucus and epithelial barrier function, glucose and lipid metabolism, immunity and satiety (Cunningham et al., 2021).

The prebiotic activity scores (PAS) of puçá and gabiroba residues reflects quantitatively the ability of the substrates to promote selective growth of specific microorganisms in the presence of competitors of the microbiota gut, like *Escherichia coli*. Positive values of PAS were found for PR, GR and FOS (Table 3). GR and PR PAS were similar to FOS in all of the probiotic strains. Substrates with great PAS can support the growth of probiotic bacteria, and for a positive PAS value, cellular growth of enteric bacteria cultivated with probiotics should be lower than the growth on media with GLU, as well as the ones in this study (Huebner et al., 2007).

### TABLE 3

Pectin oligosaccharides are considered as an emerging prebiotic with gut regulation properties, and this compound, obtained from citrus peel pectin, showed

prebiotic activity scores of 0.41 for *Lactobacillus*, comparable to PR in *L. casei* ( $0.39 \pm 0.16$ ) and GR ( $0.39 \pm 0.15$ ) in *L. acidophilus* PAS presented in this study (Zhang et al., 2018). The PAS for FOS or the tested residues were great on *B. animalis*, finding also reported by (Melo et al., 2020) for monofloral honeys produced by native bees from Brazilian Northeastern.

During the fermentation process, the contents of fructose, glucose and maltose decreased ( $p < 0.05$ ) in media with all of the carbon sources and inoculated probiotic strains (Table 4). Regardless of the inoculated probiotic, fructose was the most depleted sugar after 48 h of incubation in media with PR and GR. These results indicate that both residues were metabolized by *Lactobacillus* and *Bifidobacterium* isolates with consumption of sugars promoting high viable counts, such as FOS, indicating a positive result in investigation as prebiotic compound (Gibson et al., 2017; Sanders & Klaenhammer, 2001). Also, sugar consumption by probiotic bacteria is associated with decrease pH values during incubation time, indicating organic acid production, such as SCFA, that are important to intestinal health and can modulate metabolic activities, increasing immunological system, appetite and intestinal homeostasis (Gibson et al., 2017; Ribeiro et al., 2020).

#### **TABLE 4**

Lactic and acetic acids are SCFA produced by *Lactobacillus* and *Bifidobacterium* during carbohydrates colonic fermentation (Patrignani et al., 2018). Higher production of lactic acid in the medium with GLU and FOS inoculated with the probiotic strains can explains lower pH values observed when compared to media with PR and GR. However, at 18 and 48 h of fermentation, acetic acid was found in higher concentrations in media with PR inoculated with *L. acidophilus* and *L. casei* when compared to media added with glicose and FOS. In media inoculated with *B. animalis*, at 48 h of incubation, PR also

showed higher content of acetic acid ( $4,06 \text{ g.L}^{-1} \pm 0,38$ ) to media with GLU ( $2,01 \text{ g.L}^{-1} \pm 0,11$ ) (Table 5). This SCFA is related to body weight control and glucose homeostasis, and can inhibit the growth of enteropathogenic bacteria from microbiota (Hernández et al., 2019).

**TABLE 5**

Lactic acid can be metabolized in the colon and converted to propionic acid (Barroso et al., 2016). Propionic acid contents decreased ( $P < 0.05$ ) during cultivation in media with FOS inoculated with *B. animalis*, while in media with PR and GR presented higher content of this acid in all tested probiotic strains, especially on 48 h of incubation. The production of propionic acid by the intestinal microbiota in the presence of catechin and quercitin have increased when compared to FOS (Zheng et al., 2017), which could indicate that the phenolic compounds presented in PR and GR may have promoted the production of propionic acid by *Lactobacillus* and *Bifidobacterium*, in greater amounts ( $1,77 \text{ g.L}^{-1} \pm 0,03$  in PR and  $2,63 \text{ g.L}^{-1} \pm 0,05$  in GR) than GLU ( $0,31 \text{ g.L}^{-1} \pm 0,00$ ) and FOS ( $0,47 \text{ g.L}^{-1} \pm 0,01$ ).

Citric, malic, succinic and formic acids were detected in significant amounts mainly on media with PR and GR. Organic acids belong to the primary metabolites in plants and are important components that can contribute to the taste of products with great consumer acceptance (Zheng et al., 2019). Also, the presence of these organic acids could be related with the ability of probiotic bacteria producing through fermentation process and inhibiting enteric pathogens (Albuquerque et al., 2020).

Although there are significant reports on literature regarding Cerrado peel, pulp and seeds fruits, the focus is on bioactive compounds and biological activities, such as antioxidant and anti-inflammatory (Malta et al., 2013; Prado et al., 2020; Rosa et al., 2016). Until now, there is no data on the prebiotic activity of Cerrado fruit residues, such

as PR and GR. These residues were all used as a carbon source in *in vitro* fermentation, therefore they stimulated the growth of the probiotic microorganisms, reduced pH of the medium and produced organic acids. Further studies are needed to the complete evaluation of these prebiotic effect. However *in vitro* studies are first steps in investigation of the functional effects of fruits, being an effective guide for *in vivo* experimental model researches.

#### **4. Conclusions**

The results of this study showed that puçá and gabiroba residues have relevant nutritional characteristics for promoting human health, since they presented important phenolic compounds and dietary fiber content. The residues also presented potential prebiotic properties toward recognized probiotic strains. PR and GR showed elevated prebiotic activity scores and growth effects toward *Lactobacillus* and *Bifidobacterium* when compared to a recognized prebiotic (FOS) and glucose. The phenolic compounds of the both residues may be involved on the mechanism of the positive prebiotic activity observed. These findings demonstrate that puçá and gabiroba residues have industrial potential for being used as an ingredient for functional food products. This can encourage the industry to valorize the residues of these fruits and reduce the negative impacts on the environment caused by their discard.

#### **Declaration of Competing Interest**

The authors declare that they have no competing financial interests or personal relationships that could influence the work reported in this paper.

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**Table 1.** Chemical composition (g.100 g<sup>-1</sup>) of freeze-dried puçá and gabiroba residues used in assays to evaluate potential prebiotic properties.

Parameters	PR	GR
Moisture	4.35 ± 0.00	9.54 ± 0.31
Ash	2.45 ± 0.07	2.36 ± 0.03
Protein	6.15 ± 0.00	8.12 ± 0.27
Lipid	18.45 ± 0.00	13.05 ± 0.53
Total dietary fiber	55.70 ± 0.50	65.29 ± 0.64
Soluble fiber	<0.10	1.50 ± 0.08
Insoluble fiber	55.70 ± 0.50	63.79 ± 0.70
Carbohydrates	12.90 ± 0.50	1.64 ± 0.66
Sugars (g.L <sup>-1</sup> )		
Maltose	NF	NF
Glucose	1.40 ± 0.29	1.49 ± 0.04
Rhamnose	NF	NF
Fructose	1.47 ± 0.13	2.27 ± 0.06
Organic acids (g.L <sup>-1</sup> )		
Citric	0.46 ± 0.06	0.18 ± 0.01
Tartaric	NF	NF
Malic	0.04 ± 0.01	0.01 ± 0.01
Succinic	0.70 ± 0.07	0.60 ± 0.01
Lactic	NF	NF
Formic	0.06 ± 0.11	0.01 ± 0.00
Acetic	NF	NF
Propionic	NF	NF
Energy value (kcal.100g <sup>-1</sup> )	242.25	156.49

LPR: puçá residue; GR: gabiroba residue; NF: not found.

**Table 2.** Contents ( $\text{mg.L}^{-1}$ ) of phenolic compounds in freeze-dried puçá and gabiroba residues used in assays to evaluate potential prebiotic properties.

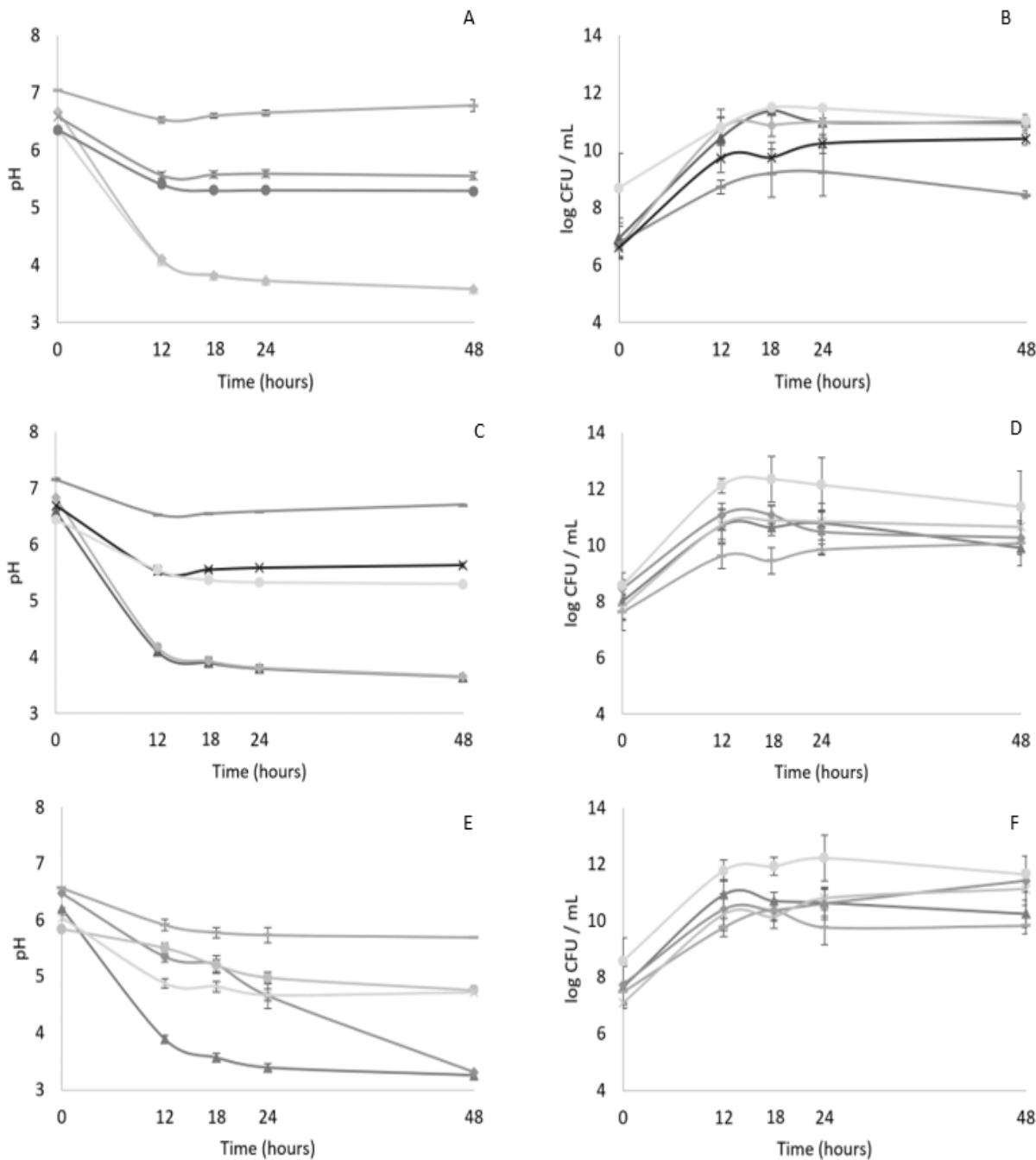
Phenolic compounds	PR	GR
Gallic acid	$3.16 \pm 0.16$	$4.49 \pm 0.15$
Syringic acid	$0.25 \pm 0.04$	$0.42 \pm 0.06$
Hesperidin	$2.74 \pm 0.11$	$5.40 \pm 0.07$
Cis-Resveratrol	$0.75 \pm 0.03$	$2.84 \pm 0.23$
Naringenin	$2.77 \pm 0.15$	$2.32 \pm 0.09$
Procyanidin B1	$2.31 \pm 0.29$	$16.52 \pm 0.43$
Procyanidin B2	$12.97 \pm 0.33$	$13.88 \pm 0.72$
Catechin	$6.66 \pm 0.15$	$44.71 \pm 1.49$
Epicatechin	$0.18 \pm 0.01$	NF
Epicatechin gallate	$5.79 \pm 0.21$	NF
Caftaric acid	$8.53 \pm 0.01$	$5.03 \pm 0.17$
Chlorogenic acid	$0.14 \pm 0.01$	$2.17 \pm 0.26$
Caffeic acid	$0.07 \pm 0.01$	NF
p-Coumaric acid	NF	$0.26 \pm 0.00$
Trans-Resveratrol	$0.15 \pm 0.01$	$0.10 \pm 0.00$
Myricetin	$8.63 \pm 0.34$	$2.99 \pm 0.06$
Quercitin 3-Glucoside	NF	$3.25 \pm 0.06$
Rutin	$1.29 \pm 1.50$	$5.08 \pm 0.07$
Kaempferol 3-glucoside	$1.46 \pm 0.10$	$9.84 \pm 0.20$

PR: puçá residue; GR: gabiroba residue; NF: not found.

**Table 3.** Prebiotic activity scores (mean  $\pm$  standard deviation) of fructooligosaccharides (FOS,  $20 \text{ g.L}^{-1}$ ), freeze-dried puçá residue (PR) and gabiroba residue (GR) ( $20 \text{ g.L}^{-1}$ ) on different probiotic strains.

Strains	Carbon source		
	FOS	PR	GR
<i>Lactobacillus acidophilus</i> LA-05	$0.36 \pm 0.16$	$0.31 \pm 0.06$	$0.39 \pm 0.15$
<i>Lactobacillus casei</i> L-26	$0.49 \pm 0.17$	$0.39 \pm 0.16$	$0.53 \pm 0.17$
<i>Bifidobacterium animalis</i> subsp. <i>lactis</i> BB-12	$0.40 \pm 0.20$	$0.36 \pm 0.13$	$0.42 \pm 0.04$

No significant difference ( $p > 0.05$ ) among values found for PR, GR or FOS on different probiotic strains, as well as for PR, GR and FOS on a same probiotic strain, based on Tukey's test.



**Figure 1.** pH values and viable cell counts of *L. acidophilus* LA-05 (A, B), *L. casei* L-26 (C, D) and *B. animalis* BB-12 (E, F) in media with glucose, fructooligosaccharides, freeze-dried puçá residues, freeze-dried gabiroba residues, and without carbon source (negative control) during 48 h of incubation.

—▲— GLU —◆— FOS —— WCS —×— PR —●— GR

GLU: Glucose; FOS: Fructooligosaccharides; WCS: Without carbon source; PR: freeze-dried puçá residue; GR: freeze-dried gabiroba residue.

**Table 4.** Contents (g.L<sup>-1</sup>) of sugars in media with glucose (20 g.L<sup>-1</sup>), fructooligosaccharides (20 g.L<sup>-1</sup>), puçá residue (20 g.L<sup>-1</sup>), and gabiroba residue (20 g.L<sup>-1</sup>) inoculated with *L. acidophilus*, *L. casei* and *B. animalis* during 48 h of incubation.

Sugars	Carbon source	Strains		<i>L. acidophilus</i>			<i>L. casei</i>			<i>B. animalis</i>		
				0 h	18 h	48 h	0 h	18 h	48 h	0 h	18 h	48 h
Maltose	GLU	0.53 ± 0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.12 ± 0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.03 ± 0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.46 ± 0.09 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.10 ± 0.09 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.02 ± 0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.48 ± 0.09 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.05 ± 0.05 <sup>Bb</sup>	0.03 ± 0.00 <sup>Bb</sup>		
	FOS	0.88 ± 0.01 <sup>Ab</sup>	NF	NF	0.69 ± 0.14 <sup>Ab</sup>	NF	NF	0.44 ± 0.14 <sup>Ac</sup>	NF	NF		
	PR	0.39 ± 0.05 <sup>Ac</sup>	NF	NF	0.35 ± 0.04 <sup>Ab</sup>	NF	NF	0.57 ± 0.03 <sup>Aab</sup>	NF	NF		
	GR	0.48 ± 0.11 <sup>Abc</sup>	0.02 ± 0.02 <sup>Bab</sup>	NF	0.32 ± 0.02 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.01 ± 0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.05 ± 0.07 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.64 ± 0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.46 ± 0.03 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.24 ± 0.01 <sup>Ca</sup>		
Glucose	GLU	16.97 ± 0.03 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.82 ± 0.03 <sup>Ba</sup>	1.07 ± 0.05 <sup>Ca</sup>	13.87 ± 2.39 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.95 ± 0.50 <sup>Ba</sup>	1.07 ± 0.02 <sup>Ba</sup>	13.75 ± 2.08 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.67 ± 0.92 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.91 ± 0.05 <sup>Ca</sup>		
	FOS	3.61 ± 0.03 <sup>Ab</sup>	1.38 ± 0.04 <sup>Bb</sup>	1.31 ± 0.01 <sup>Bbc</sup>	3.48 ± 0.10 <sup>Ab</sup>	1.37 ± 0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	1.14 ± 0.03 <sup>Ba</sup>	3.62 ± 0.00 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.46 ± 0.65 <sup>Bb</sup>	1.05 ± 0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>		
	PR	1.19 ± 0.14 <sup>Ac</sup>	1.16 ± 0.04 <sup>Ac</sup>	1.16 ± 0.01 <sup>Aab</sup>	1.26 ± 0.10 <sup>Ac</sup>	1.05 ± 0.25 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.09 ± 0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.49 ± 0.02 <sup>Ac</sup>	0.90 ± 0.01 <sup>Ab</sup>	1.17 ± 0.02 <sup>AA</sup>		
	GR	1.41 ± 0.00 <sup>Ad</sup>	1.07 ± 0.13 <sup>Bc</sup>	0.96 ± 0.09 <sup>Bc</sup>	1.36 ± 0.07 <sup>Abc</sup>	0.90 ± 0.18 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.80 ± 0.32 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.54 ± 0.02 <sup>Ac</sup>	1.21 ± 0.06 <sup>Ab</sup>	1.18 ± 0.02 <sup>AA</sup>		
	Fructose	GLU	1.18 ± 0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	NF	NF	0.18 ± 0.26 <sup>Ab</sup>	NF	NF	2.67 ± 0.47 <sup>Aa</sup>	NF	NF	
	FOS	7.07 ± 0.08 <sup>Ab</sup>	4.07 ± 0.20 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.77 ± 0.00 <sup>Ca</sup>	5.59 ± 1.57 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.60 ± 0.37 <sup>Ba</sup>	NF	3.56 ± 0.91 <sup>Aa</sup>	5.00 ± 1.46 <sup>Ba</sup>	2.13 ± 0.02 <sup>Ca</sup>		
	PR	0.53 ± 0.08 <sup>Ac</sup>	NF	NF	0.54 ± 0.05 <sup>Ab</sup>	NF	NF	0.72 ± 0.02 <sup>Ab</sup>	NF	NF		
	GR	0.96 ± 0.00 <sup>Ad</sup>	NF	NF	0.82 ± 0.06 <sup>Ab</sup>	NF	NF	1.02 ± 0.03 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.38 ± 0.02 <sup>Ab</sup>	NF		

A–C: different superscript capital letters in the same column for the same sugars at different cultivation time for each tested isolated denote differences ( $p \leq 0.05$ ), based on Tukey's test; a–c: different superscript small letters in the same row and different measured sugars for each isolate among media with GLU, FOS, PR and GR denote difference, based on Tukey's test ( $p \leq 0.05$ ). NF: not found; GLU: glucose; FOS: fructooligosaccharides; PR: puçá residue; GR: gabiroba residue.

**Table 5.** Contents (g.L<sup>-1</sup>) of organic acids in media with glucose (20 g.L<sup>-1</sup>), fructooligosaccharides (20 g.L<sup>-1</sup>), puçá residue (20 g.L<sup>-1</sup>), and gabiroba residue (20 g.L<sup>-1</sup>) inoculated with *L. acidophilus*, *L. casei* and *B. animalis* during 48 h of incubation.

Organic acids	Carbon source	Strains					
		<i>L. acidophilus</i>		<i>L. casei</i>		<i>B. animalis</i>	
		18 h	48 h	18 h	48 h	18 h	48 h
Citric	GLU	1.32 ± 0.24 <sup>Ab</sup>	1.33 ± 0.07 <sup>Ab</sup>	1.28 ± 0.40 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.22 ± 0.03 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.47 ± 0.26 <sup>Aab</sup>	0.95 ± 0.01 <sup>Bb</sup>
	FOS	1.12 ± 0.05 <sup>Ab</sup>	1.07 ± 0.01 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.70 ± 0.17 <sup>Aab</sup>	1.02 ± 0.03 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.14 ± 0.30 <sup>Ab</sup>	NF
	PR	0.51 ± 0.02 <sup>Ac</sup>	NF	0.42 ± 0.12 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.02 ± 0.03 <sup>Ab</sup>	1.34 ± 0.02 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.55 ± 0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>
	GR	1.75 ± 0.24 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.53 ± 0.18 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.35 ± 0.27 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.21 ± 0.49 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.92 ± 0.10 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.94 ± 0.04 <sup>Aa</sup>
Malic	GLU	0.40 ± 0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.38 ± 0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.26 ± 0.05 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.39 ± 0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.35 ± 0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.27 ± 0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>
	FOS	0.25 ± 0.01 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.32 ± 0.00 <sup>Bb</sup>	0.10 ± 0.03 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.18 ± 0.01 <sup>Bb</sup>	0.37 ± 0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.22 ± 0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>
	PR	0.10 ± 0.00 <sup>Ac</sup>	0.08 ± 0.02 <sup>Ac</sup>	0.08 ± 0.02 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.08 ± 0.00 <sup>Ac</sup>	0.08 ± 0.03 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.08 ± 0.02 <sup>Ab</sup>
	GR	0.08 ± 0.02 <sup>Ac</sup>	0.06 ± 0.01 <sup>Ac</sup>	0.05 ± 0.01 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.03 ± 0.05 <sup>Ac</sup>	0.08 ± 0.01 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.08 ± 0.00 <sup>Ab</sup>
Succinic	GLU	1.22 ± 0.01 <sup>Ab</sup>	1.25 ± 0.06 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.47 ± 0.06 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.55 ± 0.02 <sup>Aab</sup>	0.53 ± 0.08 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.40 ± 0.01 <sup>Ba</sup>
	FOS	1.19 ± 0.06 <sup>Ab</sup>	1.31 ± 0.01 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.24 ± 0.11 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.44 ± 0.02 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.42 ± 0.10 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.85 ± 0.00 <sup>Ba</sup>
	PR	2.38 ± 0.07 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.83 ± 0.02 <sup>Ba</sup>	0.39 ± 0.05 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.46 ± 0.03 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.47 ± 0.01 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.73 ± 0.03 <sup>Ba</sup>
	GR	1.37 ± 0.20 <sup>Ab</sup>	1.18 ± 0.13 <sup>Ab</sup>	1.09 ± 0.21 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.98 ± 0.37 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.87 ± 0.04 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.83 ± 0.02 <sup>Ab</sup>
Lactic	GLU	19.80 ± 0.03 <sup>Aa</sup>	26.14 ± 1.38 <sup>Ba</sup>	19.32 ± 2.77 <sup>Aa</sup>	25.92 ± 0.53 <sup>Ba</sup>	14.97 ± 2.53 <sup>Aa</sup>	15.69 ± 0.16 <sup>Ab</sup>
	FOS	21.32 ± 0.70 <sup>Aa</sup>	27.77 ± 0.31 <sup>Ba</sup>	13.54 ± 3.27 <sup>Ab</sup>	24.86 ± 0.79 <sup>Ba</sup>	2.21 ± 0.51 <sup>Ab</sup>	24.58 ± 0.25 <sup>Ba</sup>
	PR	3.03 ± 0.15 <sup>Ab</sup>	3.08 ± 0.03 <sup>Ab</sup>	2.76 ± 0.66 <sup>Ac</sup>	2.61 ± 0.03 <sup>Ab</sup>	2.14 ± 0.03 <sup>Ab</sup>	2.48 ± 0.07 <sup>Ac</sup>
	GR	2.84 ± 0.37 <sup>Ab</sup>	2.51 ± 0.25 <sup>Ab</sup>	2.06 ± 0.37 <sup>Ac</sup>	1.98 ± 0.82 <sup>Ab</sup>	2.32 ± 0.14 <sup>Ab</sup>	3.16 ± 0.05 <sup>Ac</sup>
Formic	GLU	NF	NF	NF	NF	0.42 ± 0.59 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.54 ± 0.12 <sup>Aa</sup>
	FOS	NF	NF	NF	NF	0.36 ± 0.12 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.40 ± 0.56 <sup>Aa</sup>
	PR	0.29 ± 0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.32 ± 0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.31 ± 0.08 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.32 ± 0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.72 ± 0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.42 ± 0.12 <sup>Aa</sup>
	GR	0.19 ± 0.04 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.16 ± 0.02 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.13 ± 0.03 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.12 ± 0.07 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.21 ± 0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.22 ± 0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>
Acetic	GLU	2.52 ± 0.07 <sup>Ab</sup>	2.04 ± 0.67 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.29 ± 0.43 <sup>Aab</sup>	2.62 ± 0.04 <sup>Aab</sup>	2.46 ± 0.10 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.01 ± 0.11 <sup>Ab</sup>
	FOS	2.53 ± 0.01 <sup>Ab</sup>	2.52 ± 0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.68 ± 0.33 <sup>Ab</sup>	2.51 ± 0.06 <sup>Aab</sup>	2.18 ± 0.48 <sup>Aa</sup>	4.21 ± 1.26 <sup>Ba</sup>
	PR	3.51 ± 0.18 <sup>Aa</sup>	3.73 ± 0.03 <sup>Ab</sup>	3.45 ± 0.76 <sup>Aa</sup>	3.74 ± 0.09 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.61 ± 0.10 <sup>Aa</sup>	4.06 ± 0.38 <sup>Ba</sup>
	GR	2.42 ± 0.30 <sup>Ab</sup>	2.21 ± 0.20 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.93 ± 0.39 <sup>Ab</sup>	1.76 ± 0.70 <sup>Ab</sup>	2.55 ± 0.12 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.63 ± 0.05 <sup>Aab</sup>
Propionic	GLU	0.46 ± 0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.57 ± 0.02 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.36 ± 0.08 <sup>Abc</sup>	0.63 ± 0.01 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.46 ± 0.10 <sup>Ac</sup>	0.31 ± 0.00 <sup>Ac</sup>
	FOS	0.42 ± 0.01 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.55 ± 0.00 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.24 ± 0.06 <sup>Ac</sup>	0.69 ± 0.02 <sup>Ab</sup>	1.01 ± 0.27 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.47 ± 0.01 <sup>Bc</sup>
	PR	1.85 ± 0.07 <sup>Ab</sup>	3.13 ± 0.04 <sup>Bb</sup>	2.41 ± 0.63 <sup>Aa</sup>	3.07 ± 0.06 <sup>Aa</sup>	1.04 ± 0.00 <sup>Ab</sup>	1.77 ± 0.03 <sup>Bb</sup>
	GR	1.50 ± 0.20 <sup>Ac</sup>	1.46 ± 0.15 <sup>Ac</sup>	1.21 ± 0.24 <sup>Ab</sup>	1.20 ± 0.48 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.46 ± 0.14 <sup>Aa</sup>	2.63 ± 0.05 <sup>Aa</sup>

A–C: different superscript capital letters in the same column for the same organic acid at different cultivation time for each tested isolated denote differences ( $p \leq 0.05$ ), based on Tukey's test; a–c: different superscript small letters in the same row and different measured organic acids for each isolate among media with GLU, FOS, PR and GR denote difference, based on Tukey's test ( $p \leq 0.05$ ). NF: not found; GLU: glucose; FOS: fructooligosaccharides; PR: puçá residue; GR: gabiroba residue.

## CONCLUSÕES

Os resultados deste estudo mostraram que os resíduos de puçá e gabiroba apresentam características nutricionais relevantes para a promoção da saúde humana. Os resíduos estudados também apresentaram propriedades prebióticas potenciais para cepas probióticas reconhecidas. O resíduo liofilizado de gabiroba mostrou os maiores escores de atividade prebiótica e os maiores efeitos de crescimento para *Lactobacillus* e *Bifidobacterium* quando comparado a um prebiótico reconhecido (FOS) e glicose. Os compostos fenólicos de ambos os resíduos podem estar envolvidos no mecanismo de atividade prebiótica positiva observada. Esses achados demonstram que os resíduos de puçá e gabiroba possuem potencial industrial para serem utilizados como ingrediente para produtos alimentícios funcionais. Espera-se que esses resultados estimulem a indústria a valorizar os resíduos desses frutos e reduzir os impactos negativos ao meio ambiente causados pelo seu descarte.

**ANEXOS**

## **ANEXO A – Instruções aos autores do periódico**

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  5. Book Reviews

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  - All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
  - Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
  - Indicate clearly if color should be used for any figures in print
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